

NOTICE OF MEETING

HOUSING AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY PANEL

Tuesday, 13th October, 2015, 6.30 pm - Meeting Location

MEMBERS: Councillors Eugene Ayisi (Chair), Gail Engert, Tim Gallagher, Eddie Griffith, Makbule Gunes, Emine Ibrahim and Martin Newton

1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

Please note that this meeting may be filmed or recorded by the Council for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by anyone attending the meeting using any communication method. Although we ask members of the public recording, filming or reporting on the meeting not to include the public seating areas, members of the public attending the meeting should be aware that we cannot guarantee that they will not be filmed or recorded by others attending the meeting. Members of the public participating in the meeting (e.g. making deputations, asking questions, making oral protests) should be aware that they are likely to be filmed, recorded or reported on.

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2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair will consider the admission of any late items of urgent business (late items will be considered under the agenda item where they appear. New items will be dealt with as noted below).

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered:

- (i) must disclose the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, and
- (ii) may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting room.

A member who discloses at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary interest which is not registered in the Register of Members' Interests or the subject of a pending notification must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the disclosure.

Disclosable pecuniary interests, personal interests and prejudicial interests are defined at Paragraphs 5-7 and Appendix A of the Members' Code of Conduct.

5. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

To consider any requests received in accordance with Part 4, Section B, Paragraph 29 of the Council's Constitution.

6. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 10)

To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th July 2015.

7. CABINET MEMBER Q & A

Cabinet member for Planning to attend to answer questions within this portfolio.

8. HOMELESSNESS (PAGES 11 - 14)

To report back from site visit to APEX House – Customer Service Centre and Housing Options Team.

To discuss with officers (Director of Housing Demand) if there are any further lines of enquiry the panel would like to make.

9. HARINGEY HOUSING STRATEGY (2015-2018) (PAGES 15 - 74)

A draft new Haringey Housing Strategy (2015-2018) has been developed (attached) which is open for consultation until the 18th October 2015.

10. HOMES FOR HARINGEY

To receive an update on future plans for Homes for Haringey.

11. WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE (PAGES 75 - 88)

To:

- 1) note the planned programme of work for future meetings;
- 2) agree the scope of the planned work on the Community Infrastructure Levy
- 3) agree the scope of the planned work on (Affordable Housing) Viability Assessments **(To follow)**

12. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any items admitted at item 3 above.

13. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

16th November 2015

18th January 2016

3rd March 2016

Martin Bradford, Scrutiny Officer
Tel – 0208 489 6950
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Bernie Ryan
Assistant Director – Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer
River Park House, 225 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8HQ

October 5th 2015

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HRSP Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th July 2015

Attendees: Cllr Akwasi- Ayisi, Cllr Engert, Cllr Newton, Cllr Gunes, Cllr Ibrahim and Cllr Griffiths.

Council Officers: Astrid Kjellberg-Obst, Stephen Kelly and Dan Hawthorn.

1. Filming at meetings

1.1 This was noted by the panel.

2. Apologies

2.1 Apologies were received from panel member Cllr Tim Gallagher and Cllr Strickland for item 8.

3. Urgent Business

3.1 No items were received.

4. Declarations of interest

4.1 None received.

5. Deputations

5.1 None received.

6. Minutes of the last meeting

6.1 In respect of matters arising from the minutes, the panel noted that the AD for Social Regeneration of Tottenham and AD for Tottenham Regeneration had been requested to attend a future meeting by the previous panel. It was agreed that this could be encompassed within the new work programme (2015/16) if the panel so wished (e.g. update for Corporate Programmes).

6.2 The panel noted that only one member of the panel was able to visit customer services and the housing options team at Apex House in March when this was scheduled. The panel indicated that that would like to arrange a further visit, given that this was an important area of work which could inform the work programme for 2015/16.

Agreed: that a visit by the HRSP to Customer Services and Housing Options Team would be arranged.

6.3 It was noted that an interim report on Selective Licensing would be available at the end of April/ May 2015. It was agreed that a further update would be provided to the panel on the council's approach to selective licensing in light of

recent judicial reviews. Update date to be agreed with officers and incorporated within work programme planning.

Agreed: That an update on the Councils plans to introduce Selective Licensing Scheme is given to the panel in this year's work programme (date to be agreed between officers and Chair).

6.4 The minutes were approved.

7. Terms of reference

7.1 The panel noted that the main Overview & Scrutiny Committee agrees the terms of reference for each of the scrutiny panels and this was to be noted by the panel.

7.2 The key policy areas covered by the scrutiny panel were noted together with the relevant Cabinet member portfolios who would attend.

7.3 The terms of reference were duly noted by the panel.

8.0 Cabinet Q & A

8.1 The Cabinet member for Housing and Regeneration was unable to attend due to family illness and sent his apologies.

8.2 The panel noted that according to protocol, that Cabinet Members attend relevant scrutiny panels twice in each municipal year.

8.3 It was agreed to reschedule the attendance of the Cabinet member for a future meeting of the Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel.

8.4 Although the Cabinet member was not present, officers agreed to provide a written response to questions from the panel in respect of the housing infill programme. These were:

1. To provide an update timetable for progress on the Phase 1a infill programme;
2. The extent to which Phase 1a of the infill programme is funded through RTB receipts;
3. How much have construction costs increased for Phase 1a of the infill programme;
4. The position of 82 Muswell Hill Place (outright sale property to provide cross-subsidy)
5. What is the timetable for the phase 2 infill programme;
6. Will the new council rented properties be at target rents on a par with existing council stock, or at higher Affordable rents?

Agreed: That officers would provide written responses to the panel.

9. Corporate Priority 4

- 9.1 The panel received a presentation from the AD for Planning Services on the councils planned actions to address Priority 4 within the Council's Corporate Plan; "Drive growth and employment from which everyone can benefit". It was intended that this presentation would provide a corporate context that would inform the panel's selection of work topics.
- 9.2 The panel noted that the proposed structure for the priority boards and how they will operate is at present conceptual at present. The panel would be interested to see how these boards operate in practice and the outcomes achieved. The panel would be keen to see the minutes of these boards if these were to be publicly available (this is yet to be determined).
- 9.3 The panel asked about the delivery of local infrastructure, where it was felt that this was often underplayed in local housing and regeneration plans, particularly health and education infrastructure. The panel noted that local priorities and governance arrangements (e.g. priority boards) will aim to develop a more coherent response to local infrastructure needs. Part of this process will be external facing, for example, lobbying national bodies.
- 9.4 In relation to the funding of Cross Rail 2, the panel noted that it was not clear if there would be any local contribution via the Community infrastructure Levy. Latest discussions centre on a number of funding options including the continuation of the current Cross Rail CIL (or increase it) or the develop funding through The Treasury or London mayoral precept. There is also the possibility that it could be funded through indirect local taxation, business rates or council tax. The question is not whether London will contribute, but how London will contribute.
- 9.5 The panel discussed the merits of using the proposed RAG rating system to underpin priority monitoring. The panel were of the view that whilst this allowed an overview of corporate performance, this did not always provide the necessary detail that was required. The panel acknowledged that there was also a difficult balance to be struck between providing the level of detail required for monitoring whilst ensuring that monitoring processes were accessible (e.g. compiling long detailed monitoring reports).

10. Corporate Priority 5

- 10.1 The panel received a presentation from the AD for Regeneration on the councils planned actions to address Priority 5 within the Council's Corporate Plan; "Create homes and communities where people choose to live and are able to thrive." It was intended that this presentation would provide a corporate context that would inform the panel's selection of work topics.

10.2 The panel noted that the Council is currently developing its own housing strategy which is a more detailed expression of priority 5. The consultation for this strategy has just commenced. There are 4 key outcomes that the council is trying to achieve in respect of priority 4 and all of the housing activities of officers should be directed towards these outcomes.

10.3 Three key programmes to help meet these objectives were outlined to the panel:

- housing transformation programme – including the future of Homes for Haringey;
- Council new build programme;
- Estate regeneration.

10.4 There was some panel discussion on the social dividend within this priority, in that housing was not just about housing but also about the people that live in these homes. That is it can achieve social objectives using housing development as a tool. In the example of estate renewal, there is a duty upon the council to minimise the negative impact on the local community, but also to maximise the development opportunities as well.

10.5 The panel noted some examples of how the council (via Homes for Haringey) provides a social dividend through the provision of housing services; it was noted that through its work in identifying those at risk from the benefit cap HfH had helped to provide job seeking advice and support. In many cases it's helping to identify those in need, and coordinating support. Other ways also include environmental projects on estates which now only help to improve the area, but contribute to peoples well being (e.g. through community involvement and engagement).

10.6 In respect of estate renewal, the panel noted that resident consultation and involvement is of paramount importance to help understand the needs and aspirations of local communities, but also to help co-produce final outcomes.

11. Work programme

11.1 Members of the panel discussed possible items to include within the work programme from those issues prioritised through the Scrutiny Cafe process. A summary of these discussions with those areas selected for review is highlighted below.

11.2 A number of suggestions were put forward by the panel which merited further examination within scrutiny, but which did not fall within the remit of this panel: equalities impact assessments and post 16 education and training pathways. It was agreed that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, under whose remit these suggestions fall, would be notified these issues and considered within the work programme of that body.

Agreed: That the following issues be suggested for Overview & Scrutiny for consideration in its work programme:

- Equalities impact assessments
- Post 16 education pathways

Community Infrastructure Levy

11.3 The panel discussed Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and governance arrangements for allocations and spending. It was noted that where there was a neighbourhood plan, the local community would receive 25% of CIL income, but otherwise 10% would be given over to community interests. It was felt that scrutiny, by taking evidence from other boroughs, could help to provide a comparative insight as to what systems should be in place for the allocation of community funding through the CIL to ensure the most effective use of this limited resource.

11.4 The panel noted that, unlike S106 monies, CIL money is not allocated to specific projects. The requirement for CIL is that monies must be spent on growth, but as it's not likely to be massive amounts of money, it may be best used as an enabling fund to help secure much larger resources for growth and development (e.g. seed corn). For example, in respect of developing new health facilities, NHS England require a planning permission before they will release money to develop new facilities, but it is not clear who pays for the planning permission. So in Tottenham at the moment, the council is funding planning permissions so that the NHS board can consider a new site for a surgery (which will eventually be refunded retrospectively).

11.5 Given that CIL receipts are anticipated to be between £1-1.5 million to cover all infrastructure, then it is probably best if this receipt is used as an enabling fund to secure much larger funds to support infrastructure ambitions.

11.6 It was suggested that the 'scrutiny in a day' approach to this project could work best for this project as it would enable all stakeholders to hear evidence presented and to come to conclusions on the day. This could involve informed authorities and professional organisations including:

- Planning officers Society
- LB Redbridge
- LB Croydon
- Milton Keynes.

11.7 As there have been requests for money from local community groups through the CIL it was noted that this project should be taken as early as possible within the work programme.

Agreed: that the HRSP undertake a project to look at CIL allocations and that this is scoped with officers.

Ensuring that development caters for local employment needs

- 11.8 This was a prioritised project coming from the scrutiny cafe discussions. It was noted that the market position is that it would be very unlikely that money would be lent to build employment space as rents would be insufficient to cover the costs of building. It is very difficult to set a blanket policy as there are so many site specific considerations as well as assessing other financial and other trade offs (e.g. provision of affordable housing, CIL), so the panel understood that it may be best left to the Planning Committee as a requirement to provide affordable employment may be made at the expense of provision affordable housing.
- 11.9 The panel noted that the Council is trying to introduce a policy for this purpose and has been consulting upon it. In addition, it was not clear how scrutiny could improve local outcomes given that much of the decision making framework (NPPF) and fields of influence (e.g. debt markets) occur at the national level.
- 11.10 The panel noted that, further to recent changes to national planning framework, there is potential to lose designated office space to residential development. It was reported that whilst this was a problem in many other boroughs (particularly those in central London with lots of office buildings) there had been very few conversion applications in Haringey.
- 11.11 The panel discussed the availability of small business spaces to help start up companies as these were important to the local economy. It was noted that Camden had established an Article 4 Direction in some areas to prevent the loss of business space and the panel may wish to assess what impact this had there.
- 11.12 It was also noted that the timescale for scrutiny involvement in this area would be limited given that given that the timescale for the next presentation and sign off of the local plan would mitigate against scrutiny involvement as no new policies could be introduced after its agreement. So whilst scrutiny could look at this issue, it may not precipitate change in local planning policy.
- 11.13 It was noted that Cllr Sahota was undertaking some work in developing business opportunities and that any scrutiny work should not overlap with this. It was agreed to write to Cllr Sahota to establish if there was any area which scrutiny could further contribute.

Agreed: the panel would write to Cllr Sahota (and relevant Cabinet member) to establish whether the possibility of undertaking any further work in respect of availability of small business spaces.

Housing Viability Assessment

- 11.14 The panel discussed housing variability assessments and the delivery of affordable housing. This is an issue which is grappled with locally via the

planning committee on a regular basis, and the panel may be able to assist in identifying further options, in particular how other authorities are approaching this, particularly across London.

- 11.15 Housing Viability Assessments are now a consideration in planning and thus are instrumental in planning decisions. It is an imperfect tool and unlikely to get a straight answer as HVA are based on the interpretation of the evidence presented by developers. It may be beneficial to look at this issue to:
- Ascertain what other authorities are doing to inform local practice;
 - Bring greater transparency;
 - Help to instil member confidence (support Planning Committee);
 - Improve public understanding and confidence in the system;
- 11.16 It was suggested that it may be useful to include the following stakeholders in this work:
- Representatives from the developers;
 - Representatives from other local authorities;
 - Agents who undertake HVA's;
 - Specialist informants.
- 11.17 The panel noted that HVA is tied to the provision of affordable housing, as there is always a trade off between the desired policy outcomes (e.g. 40% of build as affordable) and proposed viability statements provided by developers. It would be helpful to understand how other authorities, particularly who may be achieving better outcomes, approach this issue. Thus a scrutiny in this area may help to bring an independent assessment of the issue, and bring about improved understanding and confidence together with practical developments that may contribute to improved HVA outcomes.

Housing related issues - Older people's housing

- 11.18 The panel discussed older peoples housing as a possible area to incorporate within the panel's work programme. In particular, the panel noted there were issues pertaining maintaining older peoples independence in their own home (are properties fit for purpose), the availability of step down accommodation (down-sizing), as well as more formal provision of elderly residential care.
- 11.19 The panel also noted in respect of the latter from officers, that there was also a move to bring the community in to retirement homes. That is the community also uses communal spaces within the older peoples homes to help bring bridge inter-generational gaps and improve community cohesion.
- Agreed:** that the panel would assess older peoples housing provision and would scope this with officers
- 11.20 Members discussed empty properties and the councils approach to this. Whilst all were in agreement that this is an important issue which would be of

interest to assess within scrutiny, it was suggested that it may be a more appropriate if a briefing or short report is provided to the panel to explain what work is currently being undertaken in this area.

Agreed: that the Chair would discuss with officers how the issue of empty homes can be presented within the scrutiny work programme.

11.21 The panel discussed homelessness and the increasing costs of this to the Council. The panel noted from earlier budget discussions that the council was adopting an early intervention approach to prevent homelessness and further to proposals within the medium term financial strategy, would be making a number of whole systems interventions to help improve outcomes.

11.22 The panel noted that there were currently about 3,000 families in temporary accommodation and the council was planning to make a number of interventions to help reduce demand. The most pressing issue for the council, and indeed London wide, is the under supply of housing as many landlords with whom the council has contracts are now choosing to place their properties on the private market to obtain higher yields. There are as a consequence a number of political decisions that may need to be taken to help support the councils approach (e.g. increasing housing stock, external placement and priorities).

11.23 The panel noted that it would be useful to understand in greater detail local plans to reduce homelessness and would welcome an update on this once plans are available. It was suggested that in the interim, the panel proceed with the arranged visit to APEX House (as agreed in section 6.2) and discuss how best to proceed with the homelessness and temporary accommodation issue thereafter.

Agreed: any further work on temporary accommodation/ homelessness should be assessed once the visit to APEX House has been completed.

11.24 The panel noted that the new version of the Housing Strategy was just in consultation (from July to October) and that a number of housing related strategies will fall from this. It was suggested that the panel may wish to appraise this to identify any such items which it may wish to come to scrutiny in the year head as pre-decision scrutiny.

Agreed: the panel would assess the Haringey Housing Strategy to identify any sub-policies or strategies.

11.25 The panel discussed what constituted an affordable home and noted that the definition was set regionally by the Mayor. It was noted that this is one of the key areas in discussions around the HVA in that the degree of housing subsidy of new build and the quantum of 'affordable homes' ultimately built were related (e.g. closer to target rent the fewer built).

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

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Report for	Scrutiny Panel
Title	Housing Demand Data
Report for	Briefing
Business plan link	Housing Demand
Risk map link	N/A
Authority for decision	N/A
Officer to contact for more information	Bev Faulkner x4362
Director	Denise Gandy

1. INTRODUCTION/SUMMARY

Members of Scrutiny Panel visited the Advice and Homelessness Prevention Service on 29th September. The Members in attendance advised it would be useful for them to receive information relating to other parts of the service in addition to the Service Update provided on the day. This briefing provides an overview of the current position on temporary accommodation and data relating to the housing register and social housing lettings.

2. HOUSEHOLDS LIVING IN TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

At today's date there are 3109 households living in temporary accommodation. There are various forms of temporary accommodation including, but not limited to, bed and breakfast hotels, annex accommodation, Council owned hostels and units leased from private sector landlords. There are regulations on the use of bed and breakfast accommodation for households with children or a pregnant member of the household and these prohibit use of this type of accommodation in excess of a six week period. There are currently 44 households in bed and breakfast type accommodation and none of the protected cohort has spent more than six weeks in occupation. The majority of the temporary accommodation portfolio comprises of 'annex' accommodation, this being nightly purchased, self-contained accommodation procured via private landlords.

A small number of the households in temporary accommodation (137) are currently pending a statutory decision on their homelessness application; the remainder are all approved cases to whom the Council has a full housing duty. Over 1400 households in the cohort are subject to the provisions of the Localism Act which gave local authorities the power to make a suitable offer of private sector accommodation to discharge the homelessness duty rather being required to make a suitable offer of social housing which was the previous position.

The bed size requirements for those currently living in temporary accommodation are as follows:

1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed	6 bed	8 bed
153	1607	1073	233	34	8	1

3. HOUSING REGISTER

The new Allocations Policy was implemented on 29th September 2015. The changes included the rationalisation of five housing need bands to three, the inclusion of a three year residency qualification and minor changes such as the inclusion of an annual quota for those leaving the Armed Forces and a commitment to make available 1% of lettings to applicants qualifying for Right to Move.

Prior to the new Policy being implemented, there were over 11,500 households on the housing register, the vast majority of whom had no realistic chance of ever securing social housing. With the exception of 20 properties that were let to social housing tenants in Band C in 2012/13



as part of a Local Lettings Plan at Tottenham Hale, all lettings have been made to applicants in Bands A and B.

Following the introduction of the Allocations Policy in September 2015, the register has decreased to around 7500 households who are banded as follows:

Band A	336
Band B	3154
Band C	4056
TOTAL	7546

The Housing Act 1996 (as amended) provides the framework for an authority's Allocation Policy and there are certain groups of applicant that have to be given a 'reasonable preference' within the Policy. These include applicants who are homeless, or are living in unsatisfactory conditions such as overcrowded or insanitary housing, applicants who need to move on welfare or medical grounds and those who need to move to a particular locality in the district, where failure to do so would cause hardship. Band A operates to meet the housing need of applicants with a critical need to move, such as urgent management transfers and critical medical/welfare need. The Band also includes social housing tenants who are under-occupying their homes and wish to move to smaller accommodation. Band B consists mainly of applicants accepted as homeless and living in temporary accommodation plus a small number of severely overcrowded social tenants or others with a serious medical/welfare need. Band C contains all other applicants who have a reasonable preference. Within each Band, applicants are placed in date order based on inclusion in the Band and this is known as their 'effective date'.

4. LETTINGS INFORMATION

The number of social lettings has been reducing year on year and the following tables show the annual number of lets by year and bed size:

LETTINGS 2011 - 2012							
Studio	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed	6 bed	TOTAL
10	458	352	215	50	16	2	1103

LETTINGS 2012 - 2013							
Studio	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed	6 bed	TOTAL
8	445	308	143	41	2	1	948

LETTINGS 2013 - 2014							
Studio	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed	6 bed	TOTAL
13	433	240	127	29	6	0	848

LETTINGS 2014 - 2015							
Studio	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed	6 bed	TOTAL
10	388	170	98	28	2	1	697

**5. AVERAGE WAITING TIMES FOR SOCIAL HOUSING**

The average waiting times for social housing by Band is shown in the table below:

AVERAGE WAITING TIMES 2012/13					
Band /Beds	Studio/ 1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed+
A	1yr 8m	3yr 0m	5yr 3m	8yr 10m	
B	3yr 0m	6yr 10m	9yr 7m	9yr 4m	5yr 9m
C		4yr 9m*			
Average across all 3 Bands	2yr 7m	6yr 6m	9yr 1m	9yr 3m	5yr 9m

*Local Lettings Plan – Tottenham Hale

AVERAGE WAITING TIMES 2013/14					
Band /Beds	Studio/ 1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed+
A	1yr 2m	3yr 2m	5yr 5m	5yr 1m	
B	3yr 2m	7yr 2m	10yr 5m	11yr 4m	12yr 5m
Average across both Bands	2yr 1m	7yr 3m	10yr 0m	9yr 8m	12yr 5m

AVERAGE WAITING TIMES 2014/15					
Band /Beds	Studio/ 1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed+
A	1yr 4m	3yr 8m	6yr 1m	0yr 7m	7yr 4m
B	2yr 6m	8yr 1m	10yr 7m	8yr 8m	9yr 9m
Average across both Bands	1yr 11m	7yr 7m	10yr 2m	8yr 4m	9yr 2m



Haringey's Housing Strategy 2015-2020

Draft for consultation

13 July to 18 October 2015



Haringey Council



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1 | Foreword

We believe that housing is fundamentally about people and communities, not just bricks and mortar. We want to make sure that our residents have access to high quality homes that will support them in leading happy and fulfilling lives. Whether renting or buying, there is clear evidence that the quality of your home affects your health, children's attainment at school and the quality of family relationships. To help our children to have the best start in life and our adults to fulfil their ambitions, it is crucial that our residents have access to high quality homes at prices they can afford.

To achieve this ambition, we need to see a step change in the number of homes being built in our borough to tackle the housing crisis head on and provide more homes. We also need to do much more to drive up the quality of homes, whether newly built private homes, privately rented homes, or affordable housing.

We also want this new approach to homes in Haringey to help build strong, mixed communities. Too often in London, housing is an issue that divides communities and physically separates rich from poor. We want our neighbourhoods to reflect the full diversity of our vibrant borough, with people of all ages, ethnicities, incomes and backgrounds living together in strong, successful and cohesive communities.

To build more mixed communities, we will push hard to see more affordable homes built in areas of our borough with higher house prices and rents and encourage more genuinely affordable home

ownership in the centre and east of the borough. We will ensure that new developments are genuinely mixed, with a range of homes of all types. In seeking to build successful mixed communities, we want to tackle not just income inequality, but asset inequality. We will work hard to create new affordable homes that help people to put down roots and get onto the housing ladder. We must also do more to provide wrap-around support to those in housing crisis, providing not just homes but better life chances for families left behind by the market.

We are delivering this strategy in a rapidly changing world. Government policy changes on housing will pose very real challenges to Haringey's residents and communities in the coming years. We are determined to press ahead with our positive and ambitious strategy and will do all we can with our partners to support residents who are hit by changes to national housing policy and welfare provision.

This is a strategy that sets direction for everyone involved in housing – residents, developers, investors, builders, housing associations and the local authority – to do what we can to provide the homes needed and to ensure that housing delivers a clear social dividend. I am confident that with determination, creativity and innovation, we can tackle the housing crisis in London head-on and deliver this new approach to housing in a way that makes a real difference for our residents.

Councillor Alan Strickland
Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration

Ways you can tell us your views about this draft Housing Strategy



You can:

Fill in our survey online at:

www.haringey.gov.uk/housingstrategy2



Download and print off a copy of our survey from our website, fill it in and send it back to us.

You can download it from the web address shown above.

When you have completed it, please send it FREEPOST – you won't need a stamp – to:

RTJK - BZBZ - LAS Y

FREEPOST

Housing Commissioning, Investment and Sites Team

River Park House

225 High Road

London

N22 8HQ



Email us with your views on:

Housing.strategy@haringey.gov.uk



Phone us to let us know your views on:

020 8489 5678

For housing enquiries or to report a housing problem please phone 020 8489 1000.

**The consultation starts on 13 July 2015 and finishes on 18 October 2015.
We look forward to hearing from you.**

2 | Executive Summary

2.1 Context

Like many parts of London, Haringey faces a large and growing housing challenge: demand for homes continues to grow, with housing becoming increasingly unaffordable for many people, while government funding decisions mean that support for councils to meet this demand is shrinking at the same time as support for individuals. Meanwhile, the quality of existing homes is often not high enough, and inequalities are reinforced by the way different kinds of housing are distributed across the borough. New national housing and welfare policy contained in the recent Queen's Speech¹ will create a number of serious challenges during the period this Housing Strategy covers. Proposed policies including the extension of Right to Buy, the sale of higher value council homes and changes to the benefit system will create some significant challenges. The Council and its partners will need to work together to mitigate the impact of these policies for Haringey residents and find innovative ways to continue to deliver our priorities.

This changing context demands a new response. This strategy describes what we think that new response should look like – for the council, and for others too. It is clear that Haringey can learn from the experiences of other boroughs facing similar challenges, a number of which are further advanced in addressing some of these issues. But Haringey must also innovate – leading the way where other councils have not yet established a precedent – if we are to face up to the particular combination of issues

we face, and to tackle some of the most stubborn challenges that we and many other places continue to face.

2.2 Our vision

Housing is about people and communities, not just bricks and mortar. This means mixed and inclusive neighbourhoods where residents can lead happy and fulfilling lives.

2.3 Our objectives

Our approach can be summarised in four simple objectives. We propose to:

1. Improve help for those in housing crisis
2. Ensure that housing delivers a clear social dividend
3. Drive up the quality of housing for all residents
4. Achieve a step change in the number of new homes built

These objectives are the building blocks - and chapter headings - of this strategy; they will underpin not only all of Haringey's work on housing, but also the contribution we would like to see from our partners.

¹ The Queen's Speech, 27 May 2015
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/queens-speech-2015-background-briefing-notes>

2.4 Our principles

This strategy sets out not only what we want to do, but *how* we plan to do it. In the council's vision for housing in Haringey, you can find the key principles that have informed this strategy:

Housing is about people and communities. Homes and housing services are not ends in themselves. They only succeed if they help people to meet their wider needs and aspirations: for economic security; for health and wellbeing; for safety and security, and for links to their family and community. The 'People' element of our Tottenham regeneration programme is already starting to put some of these principles into practice; we want to see the same approach used right across the borough, by the council and our partners.

We want mixed and inclusive neighbourhoods. We can bring greater equality, resilience and stability only if we improve the mix of homes in each of our communities. In reality the best way to change the mix of homes – in terms of type and size of home, tenure and value – is by building new homes. Our aim to build thousands of new homes is not just a numbers game; we need to build the right homes in the right places.

We want to work together with residents, who are key to helping achieve the goals set out in this strategy, and to help them to help themselves. As the council strives to provide excellent services with ever-decreasing resources, the need for residents to play their part is increasingly important. The need for a collaborative approach is driven not just by a need to do things with less money, we also think it is the right thing to do: moving towards a more resilient and independent community that is able to prevent problems wherever possible.

2.5 Our headline proposals

Objective 1. To improve help for those in housing crisis, we will:

- Do everything we can to **prevent people becoming homeless**, or spending a long time on our Housing Register or in temporary accommodation. This will include helping people to help themselves, whether that's by avoiding being evicted or by finding a good-quality private rented home in Haringey or elsewhere, and adopting a new approach with a focus on providing the right information and advice early on, preventing avoidable distress and intervention later.
- Be clear about prioritising **the allocation of social housing** to those in greatest need – and be clear about how we define that need. For example, we have already said that people who have been living in Haringey for three years or more will have priority. Bands D and E (save those with "reasonable preference"²) will be removed. The council believes it is being honest that people in those categories no longer stand a realistic chance of being allocated a home by the council.

Objective 2. To ensure that housing delivers a clear social dividend, we will:

- Continue to provide **lifetime tenancies for council tenants**, to help give the secure and stable homes that families and individuals need if they are to thrive.
- Ensure that the council's housing services are of a measurably high standard and are open to scrutiny and continuous improvement, and that residents are engaged in shaping them.
- Promote housing as a springboard for **stability, independence, health and wellbeing**. This means the council and housing associations (also known as registered providers) being more than just a landlord, but taking a new,

² The classes of those with "reasonable preference" are set out in s166A in Part 6 of the Housing Act 1996 (as amended). Those in a reasonable preference class are broadly speaking entitled to priority in allocations over those without such preference.

more active and tailored approach to helping residents to find and keep a home, and working together with them to improve their health, education, skills and employment prospects and maintain their independence. Working together is particularly important: we will not impose one-size-fits-all requirements on our enormously diverse community; we will instead take time to understand people's specific needs and aspirations. In return, we expect residents to take their share of responsibility for their housing, and for their wider lives.

- Place a high priority on **affordable home ownership**, giving as many families as possible a realistic chance of getting onto the housing ladder, and enjoying the stability of owning their own home. We will do what we can to make shared ownership an easy-to-understand and easy-to-access option for as many people as possible by offering information and advice including helping families save for their investment in a home.
- Look for pioneering ways for residents to have **a direct stake in Haringey's growth** and regeneration – particularly in Tottenham and Wood Green, where the change will be greatest.

Objective 3. To drive up the quality of housing for all residents, we will:

- **Tackle poor quality private rented housing**, by looking at setting up both a new lettings and management agency and a new licensing scheme covering private rented homes.
- Take active steps to bring **purpose-built private rented homes** to the borough, as a new way of driving up quality in the private rented sector.
- **Invest in improvements to council homes**.
- Set new standards for homes built and managed by **housing associations**, and reduce the number of estates managed by more than one social landlord.
- Drive up standards in the design of new homes, by challenging housebuilders through the planning process and working as early as possible with major developers to influence their plans.



Objective 4. To achieve a step change in the number of new homes being built, we will:

- **Maximise the number of new homes** being built, by working closely with private developers as well as with our preferred registered provider (housing association) partners, and supporting higher density development by using the planning system to ensure each site can provide homes for the highest possible number of people.
- Build the first new **Haringey Council homes** for a generation, completing at least 250 by 2018.
- Put **mixed communities** at the heart of our approach. Not just a mix of homes across the borough, but a mix within each neighbourhood, in the type and size of home, the tenure and the value. The right approach to housing can help to make Haringey a fairer borough with more stable communities - offering everyone access to a range of experiences, facilities and opportunities, and enabling people to move through the housing market without having to sever important community ties. New housing is the most effective way to change the current mix: in Haringey this means focusing new affordable rented housing³ as much as possible in places where it is currently scarce, while deliberately prioritising more private rented homes and homes for sale in the areas which are currently dominated by affordable rented housing.
- **Promote 'affordable' housing** (whether rented or part-owned) that meets the full range of need, and be clearer than ever before about the definition of 'affordable'. As a maximum, we expect that no-one should have to spend more than 45% of their net household income on housing costs – but for many it will need to be lower than this. By keeping rents low in this way, we accept that we and our partners may be able

to build fewer homes overall than if we set rents higher.

- Push ahead with **housing estate renewal**, rebuilding council homes alongside new homes of other tenures, including for private sale. This is essential in increasing the number of homes in Haringey and achieving a better mix of housing across the borough, while tackling poor quality homes where Decent Homes investment cannot deliver the necessary change. We acknowledge the particular challenges in making renewal work on estates like Broadwater Farm and Noel Park. Mixed developments are needed to ensure viability and we will prioritise a better balance of home sizes in the replacement of affordable rented stock, accepting that this will sometimes result in fewer affordable rented homes overall.
- Promote **innovation** and be prepared to experiment with new kinds of homes, including subsidy-free affordable housing models, new approaches to shared ownership and purpose-built private rented homes.

We know that some of these approaches will be unpopular, difficult to implement, or both. Others will feel long overdue. Many, while new to Haringey, are already well established in other London boroughs and other parts of the UK.

In the current climate, and with our vision for Haringey, we think that together these ideas represent the best possible future for housing in Haringey, and for the people of Haringey.

We want to know whether you agree.

³ Affordable rented homes means social rented and "Affordable Rent" homes. Social rented homes are let by the council and housing associations on rents which are on average 30% of local market rents and usually let on tenancies which last indefinitely. The government introduced a new form of affordable home in 2012 which are homes let on an Affordable Rent. The rents of Affordable Rent homes can be up to 80% of local market rents and are usually let on fixed term tenancies. Affordable Rent homes in Haringey have so far been produced by housing associations and the average rents for them have been around 65% of local market rents.



3 | About this strategy

3.1 What is this strategy for?

While councils are not required by law to have a Housing Strategy, it is an effective way of building on our Corporate Plan and Local Plan to set out how we will lead the work to deliver new homes and provide housing services in a way that meets local needs.

Building on the Corporate Plan

Haringey Council's new Corporate Plan, *Building a Stronger Haringey Together*, sets out the council's overall priorities and programme of work for the period for 2015-18. It identifies housing as one of its five priorities, committing us over that period to 'Create homes and communities where people choose to live and are able to thrive'. The role of this strategy is to flesh out the Corporate Plan's high level objectives: to show more clearly what success looks like, to say what the council will do itself and what it expects others to do; and to demonstrate clearly how housing can play a role in meeting our objectives right across every element of the Corporate Plan. In that way, this strategy provides a framework for the Corporate Plan's delivery, by the council and its partners.

Supporting Planning Policy

This strategy has been written in conjunction with the council's Local Plan, and will help to define the council's requirements for the kind of housing – and in particular affordable housing – that must be built as part of new developments in the borough.

The Planning process is one of the most important tools that the council has in making sure that new homes in the borough are the homes we need: affordable to the borough's current and future

residents, in an appropriate mixture of tenures, and designed in a way that meets people's actual needs including in terms of accessibility and the number of bedrooms. The strategy will support the council in making Planning decisions; while not a formal planning document – and consequently not part of the Statutory Development Plan – the Housing Strategy will be a material consideration, although it will not carry significant weight in the development management process.

3.2 Who is this strategy for?

This strategy is a public document, and we want it to be accessible to everyone. There are some groups of people that we expect will be particularly interested in some or all of the strategy, and may need to use it in their work. These include:

- Existing Haringey residents (especially those who rent their home from the council, a housing association or a private landlord), so they know what they can expect, and what is expected of them
- People looking for a new home in Haringey (whether they currently live here or not, and especially if they want to rent that home or buy some or all of it through an affordable home ownership scheme), so they can understand what their options are and what support they might expect
- Private developers and registered providers (housing associations) proposing to build new homes in Haringey, so they know what is expected in their proposals

- Private landlords and registered providers who let homes in Haringey, so they know what standards are expected and how those standards might be enforced
- Regional and central government agencies such as the Greater London Authority (GLA) and the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), to help inform their funding decisions
- Public bodies and voluntary sector organisations that provide services or advice to current or future Haringey residents, so they can make sure their own work with residents is consistent with the council's approach and is linked properly to the work being done by housing providers.
- The council itself, and its partner Homes for Haringey, to ensure that our approach to future challenges is consistent with the overall strategic approach set out here
- Changes in national government policy on local government, housing and welfare mean that Haringey is facing a greater challenge than ever to meet the housing needs of its community, but with less money and fewer staff of its own
- Haringey's population is growing, from 216,510 in 2001 to a projected 293,749⁴ by 2026, with particular growth in working age and older residents
- The ratio between house prices and earnings in Haringey has increased from 4.31 in 1997 to 11.15 in 2013. The higher the ratio, the more unaffordable it is for households to own their own homes
- Private renting has increased substantially in Haringey since 2001, but there is increasing concern about its quality and management and that as rents increase, even this is an unaffordable option for many people

3.3 Why a new strategy now?

The council's new Corporate Plan – and in particular the objectives it sets out on housing and growth – makes this a good time to update our approach to housing. There are many other recent changes – many of them outside of the council's control – which mean that our previous Housing Strategy needs updating. They include:

- The Mayor of London – through his London Plan – has set Haringey an increased target of 1,502 new homes per year for the period between 2015-16 and 2025-26

3.4 How was the strategy developed?

Consultation

The council has already held the first of two consultation exercises to encourage input from residents, partners and other stakeholders to help shape the content of Haringey's Housing Strategy.

The first consultation, carried out between 20

⁴ GVA, (2014) Haringey Strategic Housing Market Assessment, Pg 7

October and 12 December 2014, sought opinion on the first draft vision, priorities and principles that could be included in a new Housing Strategy. While a large majority of stakeholders expressed support for the proposals, respondents also highlighted a range of issues and concerns. This draft addresses the most significant of these in the following ways:

- **Affordability of homes:** this draft proposes a definition of affordability, that no more than 45% of net income should be spent on housing costs by someone living on Haringey's median income (£33,140 as at 2012-13). *See section 8.2 for more information*
- **The need to build more homes in the borough:** this draft sets out the housing targets Haringey is proposing to work to during the next 10 years. *See section 8.1 for more information*
- **Quality and management of homes in the private rented sector:** this draft strategy sets out proposals to set up a new lettings and management agency and a licensing scheme covering private rented homes in the borough. *See section 7.3 for more information*
- **The need for homes to be set in good-quality environments, internal and external:** this draft strategy sets out plans for:
 - Tackling the blight of empty homes and bringing them back into use (section 7.4)
 - Completing the Decent Homes programme for council-owned homes (7.1)
 - Setting new design standards for homes built and managed by a range of providers (section 7.5)
 - Working with the providers of multi-landlord estates to improve service standards on these estates (section 7.2)
- **In order to ensure delivery of the strategy, effective monitoring and achievement of the outcomes,** section 3.6 provides more information on delivery strategies and policies. Arrangements will be put in place, such as annual reviews to monitor progress and to make adjustments to respond to changing circumstances. These will help address concerns raised in the consultation around delivery of the strategy.

A full consultation report including a list of stakeholders consulted and feedback from respondents is available online at www.haringey.gov.uk/housingstrategy2

This full draft strategy is the basis for the second round of consultation.

3.5 Equalities impact assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment of the draft Housing Strategy was undertaken that indicated a number of areas in which the council needs to conduct further monitoring and analysis of protected characteristic data with a view to ensuring that equality is achieved. As a result, the council will:

- Introduce regular monitoring and analysis of lettings of social rented homes in the borough to ensure groups with protected characteristics benefit proportionately and fairly
- Through the Homelessness Strategy, use findings from the EqIA analysis to develop appropriate service responses for particular age groups affected by homelessness and the over-representation of female headed households who ask the council for help because they are homeless
- Put in place equalities monitoring for all projects which deliver new homes and jobs to ensure that all Haringey residents benefit fairly and take mitigating action where necessary
- Put in place equalities monitoring and analysis of all households to ensure fair access to new low cost home ownership opportunities in the borough, taking appropriate mitigating action if it is found that some households with protected characteristics benefit less from this initiative

A copy of the EqIA for the Housing Strategy can be downloaded from this web address:

www.haringey.gov.uk/housingstrategy2

3.6 How will the strategy be delivered?

This strategy sets out what Haringey Council wants to achieve on housing, focusing in particular on the big changes necessary to our approach. While it describes a number of specific initiatives that are already underway or in development, it does not offer every detail of how our objectives will be achieved. In some cases, we do not yet have all the answers. In others, there is not space here for all the detail. In many cases, we will want to consult further with residents and partners before finalising plans and putting them into action.

Crucially, the council cannot and will not do everything itself. There is a central role for Homes for Haringey, the arm's-length management organisation (ALMO) that manages the council's homes, and we are also clear that leadership on housing in Haringey extends beyond the council. The approach should apply to all homes in Haringey, which means everyone involved in building and managing homes and supporting the people who live in them has a role to play in delivering it. This

strategy also describes how and why we would like residents to take a greater share of responsibility for their own housing situation and wider lives.

We are determined to be transparent about our own detailed plans for delivery, and will:

- Involve residents and other partners in developing detailed proposals to deliver those objectives described in the Housing Strategy where plans do not already exist
- Publish on the council's website details of our progress, as part of our transparent monitoring of performance against the council's wider Corporate Plan
- Publish on the council's website a comprehensive collection of detailed policies and sub-strategies that set out our approach to delivering the strategy, such as our updated Allocations Policy, refreshed Homelessness Strategy and forthcoming Private Sector Housing Strategy.

The table below sets out the range of housing-related sub-strategies that will assist in delivering the council's Housing Strategy

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Delivery (sub) Strategies/Policies	To be completed by/ already completed
Homelessness Strategy to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move-on Strategy • Rough Sleepers Strategy 	2015/16
Private Sector Housing Strategy (<i>includes empty homes</i>)	2016/17
Affordable Warmth Strategy	2015/16
Tenancy Strategy	October 2014
Allocations Scheme	October 2014
Decant Policy and Procedures	2015/16
Housing Investment and Estate Renewal Strategy	November 2013
Housing-Related Support Commissioning Plan	July 2012
HRA Business Plan	2015/16
Homes for Haringey's Business Plan	2015/16
Corporate Asset Management Plan/Capital Strategy	2015/16
Housing Asset Management Strategy (<i>includes environmental sustainability</i>)	2015/16
Customer Services Strategy/Services Transformation Programme	Ongoing
Housing Transformation Programme	March 2016
Older People's Housing Strategy (2011-2021)	May 2011
Affordable Housing Delivery Plan	2015/16
Planning Policies (design, density, environmental sustainability, etc)	2015/16
Shared Ownership Policy	September 2015
Discounted Rent Allocations Policy	March 2016



4| The Haringey context: key challenges and opportunities

4.1 Haringey's opportunities

Haringey is a place of great opportunity. We are part of one of the three world cities and benefit hugely from that. With our potential for growth, we believe that we are the future of London.

Haringey is building on a great base. We are already home to institutions of national and international significance including Tottenham Hotspur Football Club F.C. and Alexandra Palace. There are many great businesses, with more arriving all the time, and fast transport links Haringey residents to many thousands more jobs in central London. Our residents come from many different cultures and we are proud of our diverse communities that are comfortable with one another. We are home to some of London's most desirable neighbourhoods, while at the same time the variety of housing means that people who cannot afford to live in other parts of the city have been able to make Haringey their home without having to compromise their connections to central London.

4.2 Haringey's housing challenge

Since the last Housing Strategy for Haringey was published in 2009, there have been two local elections, one general election and a London Mayoral election. The 2011 Localism Act transformed the landscape for local authority housing, in particular the changes to financing council-owned housing. Meanwhile the economy, at both a macro and a micro level, has changed

dramatically, while the population of London has continued to grow.

Government cuts to the council's annual budget have amounted to £117m since 2010, and a further £70m of savings are earmarked for the period through to 2017/18, meaning Haringey Council is no longer able to provide the range of services it once did and has to deliver services in new ways.

The council's role in delivering its Housing Strategy must increasingly be one of commissioner and enabler, working with partners to maximise investment in new housing and better services, and supporting residents to help themselves as much as possible by making sure they have all of the information they need to make informed choices and are supported to take responsibility for their own future.

With a 65% reduction in the subsidy available to build new affordable homes, as well as substantial changes to the national and regional picture which have made the housing challenge even more significant, we are simply not able to house everyone. Demand for council and housing association homes in the borough far outstrips availability. Within London, Haringey has the second highest number of households in temporary accommodation because they are homeless. In reality, social housing is only open to those in extreme need and supply will never meet demand.

Meanwhile, London as a whole is experiencing a housing crisis. The capital's population is booming and this year will pass its historic peak of 8.4 million, but house building is not keeping pace and homes in the capital are becoming ever less affordable.

London Councils⁵ estimates that 800,000 new homes will be needed in the capital over the next decade, whilst recent annual completions have averaged less than 25,000 a year.

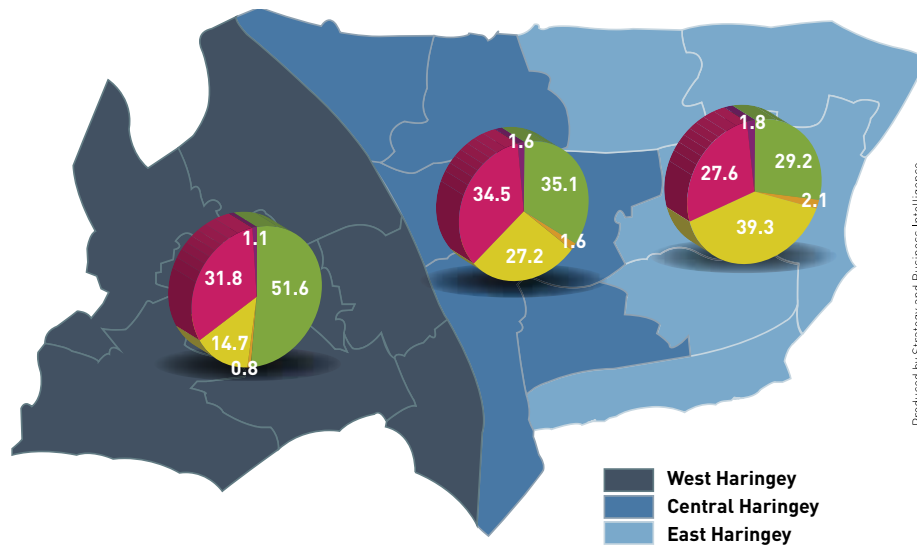
Haringey can be part of the solution, but only if we can address the challenges head-on and in a way that puts people first: by going as far as we can to meet demand for more housing; by ensuring we have the right mix of housing options across the borough; and by driving up the quality of all housing. We need to work with all our partners, and across all tenures, to

⁵ London Councils is a cross-party organisation which represents London's 32 boroughs and the City of London to help get the best deal for Londoners on a wide range of issues from the Mayor of London and central government

accommodate households that are large and small, to house people who are elderly and need more support, and to allow people with physical and learning difficulties to live as independently as possible.

And the challenges are not just about the people and families in greatest need. Getting on the housing ladder is increasingly unaffordable for many people, denying families the stability of ownership and reducing the number of financially-resilient residents who have assets to fall back on in the future. New homes are not affordable to most residents and, of those who can buy a first home, many can only afford to do so because of financial help from their parents or others.

Tenure in Haringey compared with London and England and Wales: Census data 2001-2011

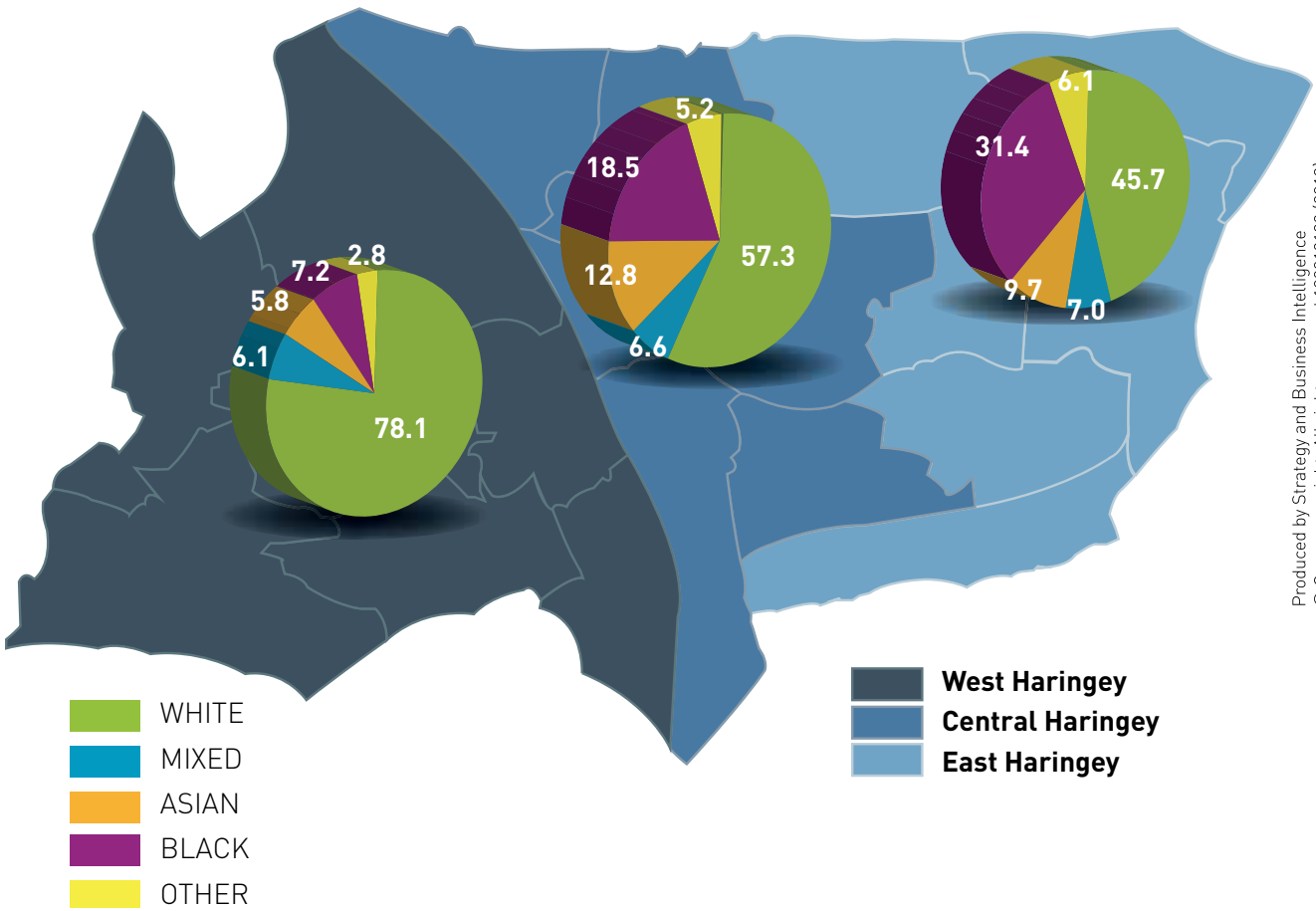


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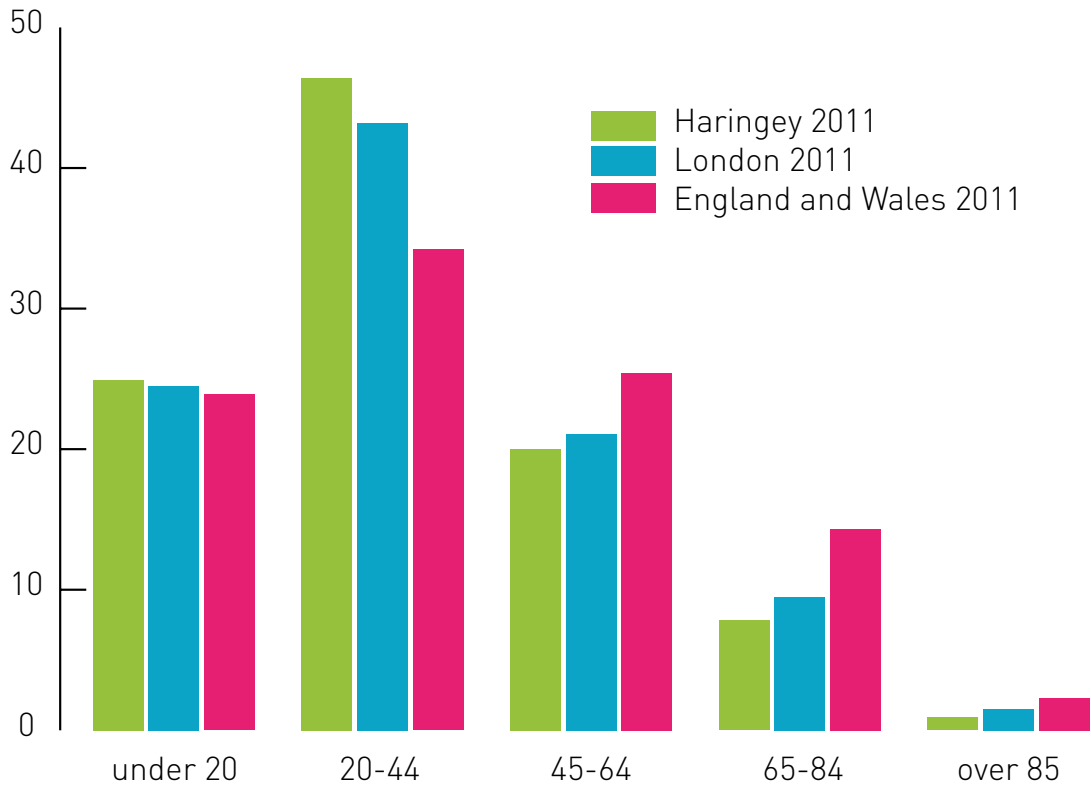
Tenure in west, central and east Haringey, Census 2011

- Owned outright or with mortgage or loan
- Shared ownership (Part owned and part rented)
- Social rented: rented from council and housing association
- Private rented

Ethnicity - distribution of households in Haringey



Age distribution



4.3 Harnessing regeneration and growth to achieve our ambition for housing

Haringey's drive for new housing forms part of its overall ambitions for regeneration and growth, as set out in both the council's Corporate Plan and its emerging Local Plan. In the coming years, the council's regeneration efforts will be targeted in its priority areas: Tottenham and Wood Green. The council's vision for regeneration includes new and improved housing alongside other measures including better local town centres; enterprise, employment and training; transport; health; education; community safety; and environmental improvements. The council will have a coordinating role across these areas.

Tottenham already has a mix of housing, though that mix is not good enough and in some areas the housing quality is not what it should be.

Regeneration in Tottenham is already well underway, and the council is committed to estate renewal at High Road West (Love Lane) and Northumberland Park, together with the delivery of a significant number of new homes – and in particular affordable homes – at Tottenham Hale as part of the Housing Zone strategy promoted by the Mayor of London.

In **Wood Green**, the challenge is clear: how can the area take advantage of its excellent transport connections (which we hope will soon be improved by Crossrail 2) and a number of large development sites (some on council land) to drive major housing growth while simultaneously rejuvenating an economically flagging and poorly laid-out town centre. Wood Green has the capacity for around 5,000 new homes over the next fifteen years, a major contribution to Haringey's overall target. Like Tottenham, Wood Green has a range of existing homes which will form part of the area's long-term housing stock, and whose character will need to be taken into account when the mix of new homes is being determined.

The council will be developing its plans for Wood Green throughout 2015 and 2016.

To fit with our wider regeneration aims, new homes and housing programmes – including estate renewal projects – in Haringey must:

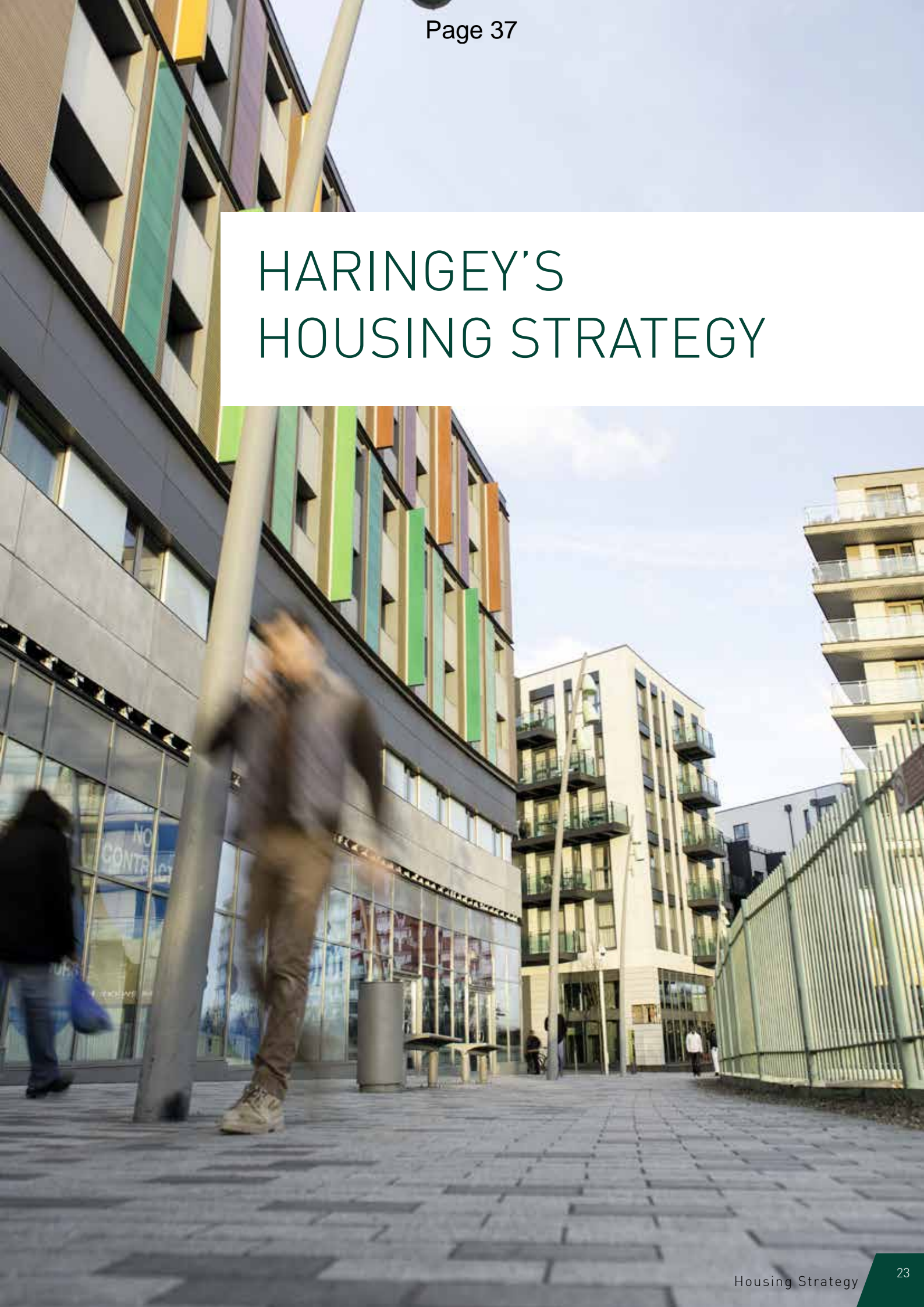
- be fully aligned with the wider vision for the place, as set out in planning policy and regeneration frameworks
- be in keeping with their surroundings, preserving the best and the unique, while contributing an appropriate supply of good quality homes for current and future residents of the borough and helping to create the optimum conditions for economic growth
- help to link physical change to improved social and economic outcomes, using the links between resident and landlord to connect people with opportunities to improve their safety, health, and skills and employment opportunities, as described elsewhere in this strategy
- be sustainably supported by the necessary infrastructure, whether utilities and services directly serving homes; social infrastructure like schools and health facilities; or transport services linking housing areas to employment opportunities, local services and neighbouring communities. Investment in homes should support investment in infrastructure, especially in areas where we know need already exists, such as primary health care in Tottenham

Maximising the potential of council land

It is clear that public land, owned by the council, has a major role to play in delivering housing growth and wider regeneration, including through major housing estate renewal and the development of sites that are now surplus to the council's requirements. However, the council's land assets are matched by neither the capital funding (or borrowing capacity) nor the commercial and development expertise required to build the number of homes of the quality we would like at the speed that our residents need them.

To make best use of public land in realising regeneration and growth ambitions, the council is exploring whether and how it might establish a new development vehicle: a dedicated company that brings together its land assets with investment and expertise from one or more private partners, in a joint venture. This would enable the council to realise its ambitions for housing on its land, while retaining an appropriate long-term stake in the proceeds of development, enabling it to reinvest in regeneration including through the Community Fund described elsewhere in the strategy. It would also allow the council to retain influence over the pace and quality of development, which would not be possible with more traditional land deals or development agreements. This proposal will be developed further throughout 2015, with 2016 the earliest that a vehicle could be established.

HARINGEY'S HOUSING STRATEGY



5| Objective 1: Improve help for those in housing crisis

The vision that underpins this strategy has people and communities, rather than bricks and mortar, at its heart. Haringey residents should be able to expect a standard of housing that enables them to stay safe and warm, and which provides the basis for them to meet their own needs and aspirations.

This section of the Housing Strategy explains how we will respond to the particular needs of people and families: giving advice and offering options with the aim of preventing homelessness, while being clear that responsibility for defining and meeting those needs should lie with residents, rather than with the council or any other organisation.

5.1 Preventing homelessness

Where households face actual or threatened homelessness, councils have a legal duty to provide advice, assistance and - in some cases - accommodation. Due to the increasing difficulties that many people are facing in sustaining their homes, we can expect to see an increase in demand for services to help people threatened with homelessness. We will work with each person or family to help them identify the best way for them to get or keep a home.

- Our starting point must be to try to prevent homelessness wherever possible. The number one reason for homelessness in Haringey is loss of a private rented sector tenancy, usually because of a landlord's wish to charge increased rents which are not affordable for the current tenant. Many households will also experience financial difficulties and get into rent arrears.

Whatever the circumstances, we will work with tenants – and in partnership with private landlords, housing associations and the voluntary sector – to provide advice and support, and to try and sustain their tenancies whenever possible

- Where it is not possible to avoid a person or family becoming homeless, we will help people to access the widest possible range of options, including a good quality affordable home in the private rented sector and sometimes the option of a home outside Haringey. We particularly want to reduce the number of homeless households living in temporary accommodation, and will work with landlords of private rented homes to provide a greater supply of good quality, safe and well-managed homes for people who are homeless
- We will almost always expect people who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless, to take an active role in the process, taking responsibility for their situation and the options for dealing with it, and being realistic about the range of possible outcomes. We will take a more collaborative approach to move towards a more resilient and independent community which is able to prevent problems wherever possible

Haringey will be refreshing its Homelessness Strategy over 2015/16, starting with a homelessness review.

5.2 Taking new approaches to temporary accommodation

Like many other boroughs, Haringey finds it increasingly difficult to secure good quality, sustainable and affordable temporary accommodation of all types in London. Competition for private rented homes has driven up prices, sometimes further fuelled by suppliers who actively inflate the market. Meanwhile, the council is dealing with rising levels of homelessness, with households often spending longer in temporary accommodation. To meet the challenge on demand, and to contain costs, the council needs to work in new ways.

We are:

- Forging new partnerships with investors offering long-term investment to provide affordable, good quality, secure homes to help homeless households as well as additional, less expensive temporary accommodation
- Supporting homeless households who cannot afford Haringey or London private rental prices, to enable them to take up homes outside London with landlords the council has vetted and trusts
- Using a wider range of council assets, including homes we own, as temporary accommodation

5.3 Allocating affordable housing

Social and affordable rented homes

Social housing is scarce and demand far outstrips supply; we cannot house everyone. We have recently updated our Housing Allocations Scheme, which describes how we prioritise the allocation of social and affordable rented homes across the borough - whether the council or a housing association is the landlord - to people on Haringey's Housing Register with the highest level of housing need and/or an urgent need to move. Recent changes include:

- A commitment that people who have been living in Haringey for three years or more will be given priority

- Measures to help the council achieve its estate regeneration ambitions by ensuring that residents in those estates can be appropriately re-housed
- Allowing the council and its partners to make the best use of their stock by enabling people who are under-occupying their home to move to a smaller property
- Whilst ensuring those applicants which housing law says have a "reasonable preference"⁶, removing Housing Need Bands D and E from our Housing Register altogether, on the grounds that people in those categories no longer stand any realistic chance of ever being allocated a home owned by the council or a housing association.

The council will also continue to quickly let empty council properties and take up nomination rights to housing association vacancies.

The Government's intention to extend the right to buy to housing association tenants will result in fewer council and housing association homes being available for letting in Haringey in the future. The council is not yet able to estimate how many fewer affordable homes there will be but the council will work with its housing association and developer partners to try to replace homes lost, although this will be very challenging.

While we are committed to providing lifetime tenancies for council tenants, we will never assume that social housing will meet every family's long-term aspirations. Some residents will aspire to own a home, or privately rent a home in the future. We will always seek to understand these aspirations, and support our residents to work towards them.

Low-cost home ownership

The council will consult on a new Shared Ownership Policy which intends prioritising new low-cost home ownership homes that become available to people who live and work in Haringey.

⁶ See footnote to Section 2.5

6| Objective 2: Ensure that housing delivers a clear social dividend

Housing cannot be separated from some of the other challenges people may face, including in health, education, employment or community safety, nor can it ignore the role that housing can play either in helping to meet those challenges, or in making them worse. New homes and wider regeneration programmes can – and must – have a transformative effect, not just on the physical place, but on the lives of people who live in that place. We are particularly keen to make sure that people who are settled in regeneration areas can get the greatest possible benefit from the change in their neighbourhoods.

6.1 Using housing to improve life chances: promoting stability, independence, health and wellbeing

A safe, stable good quality home is often the first building block for a healthy, independent life. Haringey Council is determined to work in an integrated way with health, housing and voluntary sector partners to make sure that each Haringey resident has a home that helps to support his or her stability, independence, health and well-being.

The aim is to provide a comprehensive response to the sometimes complex needs of residents, and in particular the most vulnerable households whose needs will often be amplified by recent -and possible future - changes to the welfare system. We also

know that some parts of Haringey's increasingly diverse population will need particular kinds of support, and that some of those groups – especially older people – will grow in the years to come. Wherever possible, our approach will be based on three important principles:

- We think it is better to prevent problems before they arise
- We expect residents to take primary responsibility for their own situation – and solving their problems - wherever possible
- We want communities increasingly to support each other, rather than rely on public services

Inevitably, this approach is partly driven by the need to reduce dependence on a council – and wider public services - with ever-decreasing resources. But this collaborative approach is not just driven by our need to save money: we also think it is the right thing to do. A more resilient and independent community is more likely to succeed in the long-term.

The 'People' element of our Tottenham regeneration programme is already showing how this can work in practice. On the Love Lane estate, for example, the council and residents have worked together not just on the changes to people's homes and the wider built environment, but also on issues of health, employment, education and crime and in a co-productive way, led by residents themselves. This is

a template we want to use elsewhere in Tottenham and across the borough, adapting it to meet the particular priorities that local people have identified.

A stable home

Evidence shows that children's life chances are enhanced by living in stable homes, while being forced to move home frequently can have a detrimental effect on educational attainment. Frequent moves can also disrupt vital family connections and access to a stable job or training. To help provide the secure and stable homes that families and individuals need to thrive we will:

- Work to sustain people's tenancies no matter who their landlord is
- Provide lifetime tenancies for council tenants
- Start working with investors to develop affordable private rented homes in Haringey which offer longer tenancies than is typical in the private rented sector.

Employment and training

Housing can also help residents to secure employment and access training opportunities – supporting the long-term aim of achieving a fully-employed Haringey – together with partners, including Jobcentre Plus, local colleges, third sector organisations and employers. Together, we will:

- ensure that housing advice and homelessness services are closely linked with employment and skills support, particularly in relation to young people
- use our buying power to help residents benefit from jobs working to deliver council contracts;
- encourage our providers and suppliers to offer apprenticeships and vocational training opportunities like those offered by the council itself
- secure training and employment for Haringey residents in construction and related trades in new building, estate renewal and Decent Homes improvements. As an example of how investment in our assets can provide employment and training opportunities, the council's partner, Homes for Haringey working with College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London, will be creating 50 apprenticeship opportunities over the next 2 years. We hope to extend this initiative to the council's new build and estate renewal programmes. We will also use section 106 agreements attached to planning permissions to cement commitments from housing developers to training and employment.

Helping people to live independently

We believe that independence is fundamental to wellbeing for everyone, and independent living for the widest range of people helps to achieve our aim for mixed and balanced communities. We recognise

that this can be particularly challenging for some people, and that support will sometimes need to be tailored to the specific needs of particular groups. We have changed our approach to place a higher priority on helping people to live independently. For example:

- To help young people, including care leavers, to secure and maintain independent housing away from the family home, we will work with our partners to help them engage effectively in society, combat financial exclusion and make the most of training and employment opportunities
- We will seek to increase the number of people with learning disabilities who have their own home; increase the quality of housing and support for people with learning disabilities, and ensure that this housing and support is affordable
- We will provide suitable housing and neighbourhoods for older people, close to local services, community facilities and opportunities for outdoor activity and recreation, to help them maintain the highest possible level of activity, independence and quality of life

Whenever we are trying to help people live independently, our housing-related support programme will apply the same set of core principles:

- We will seek to prevent homelessness and reduce the need for temporary accommodation by commissioning early intervention and support services that sustain independence and provide alternative accommodation pathways.
- We have changed our approach to ensure that our housing-related support provides these clear pathways so people can access and leave support services in a planned way.
- We will intervene early to prevent loss of independence, by understanding the greatest risks threatening residents' capacity to continue living safely and comfortably in their own homes, and by seeking to minimise escalating needs and reduce the long term cost to public health, social care and support services. This will include providing housing services and support

at home if possible, and working with our partners to provide wider and more innovative opportunities for support at an earlier stage to avoid institutional forms of support and care.

- We will explore options for developing more tailored services for individual older and vulnerable people, including extending services that are part of any purpose-built supported accommodation to provide support services to people living in the wider community.
- We will ensure that the supported housing we commission and provide meets current and projected needs for all age groups and types of need. We will undertake a review to ensure that the available accommodation is modern and fit for purpose with appropriate support available, including in residents' own homes.

In all cases, our approach will focus on helping people to help themselves. This will include exploring ways to make it easier for residents to find appropriate homes that better meet their needs.

Improving health and wellbeing

We are determined to take every opportunity to use housing as a way to improve people's long term physical and mental health, while reducing the health risks that people's housing and wider environment may create. For example:

- Our Decent Homes investment in council-owned homes will make an important contribution to the health and wellbeing of council tenants and leaseholders
- We can improve health by tackling poor quality homes in the private sector and especially the private rented sector, where the highest levels of serious repairs and hazards occur
- Through the planning process, we will ensure that new housing supports residents' physical and mental health by enabling activity (for example with communal gardens), providing play areas for children with a wide range of needs, and enabling older and more vulnerable adults to remain independent for as long as possible
- We will work with Homes for Haringey and the private and voluntary sectors to revise Haringey's

Affordable Warmth Strategy, identifying ways of helping people out of fuel poverty and reducing the risk of cold-related illnesses and excess seasonal deaths

Our approach will be rooted in prevention: ensuring that efforts to support better health and wellbeing through housing will focus on tackling the main reasons why people become ill or suffer health inequalities in the first place. We will also support – and expect – people to help themselves wherever possible, including by providing the information people need to make informed choices.

Safety and security

People must feel safe and secure in their home and neighbourhood. We will:

- Continue to work with statutory and voluntary sector organisations to provide a holistic package of emotional and practical support for survivors of domestic violence in Haringey, including legal advice, housing advice, safety planning, access to counselling and, where needed, access to refuge accommodation or the Sanctuary home security improvement scheme.
- Tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB), ensuring that repeat vulnerable victims of ASB see a joined-up and consistent approach to their problem, regardless of where they live in the borough. We will identify the areas and individuals that are most at risk of experiencing ASB and develop more coordinated tactical plans for tenants and homeowners to prevent ASB from occurring in the future. An early priority will be to work with partners in mental health and drug and alcohol misuse services to improve sustained support to both victims and offenders.
- Promote high quality design, to maximise safe living conditions, in the council's estate redevelopment plans and planning policies.

6.2 Giving residents a stake in growth

Too often, existing communities can feel that higher rents and house prices and more desirable neighbourhoods bring a lot of headaches and not much

benefit, most obviously for those people who do not own some or all of their own home. Years of construction upheaval can threaten to make this worse, especially in areas like Tottenham and Wood Green where the change will be significant and take place over many years. It sounds obvious to say that regeneration must have the support of local people, and make a genuine positive difference to those people's lives – but too often this does not seem to happen.

We want to make a real change to the way regeneration works, finding ways for residents to have a direct stake. This means giving everyone a share in the benefits and helping the community, the council and a range of other partners unite behind a shared ambition for growth and progressive change. There are a number of possible initiatives which are not all easy to deliver but we are clear that they are the right aspirations. For example:

- We are working on plans for a potential regeneration delivery company to explore how the Council can maintain a long-term financial stake in regeneration and housing projects, to generate additional funds for our social objectives
- We are already working on proposals for a Community Fund, where funds are set aside for residents to lead the decision-making on investment in their neighbourhood.
- We would like to explore giving residents a more direct, personal, financial stake – whether through shares in development companies, or a kind of social investment bond where the long-term return is driven by reduced costs to public services.
- We will be clearer with communities about the benefits they can expect to see over time: priority access to new homes; better public spaces; new jobs and apprenticeships; investment in local services and infrastructure.
- We will consider the best way to recognise the disruption experienced by those living closest to major development sites.

As we pursue these and other initiatives, we will work with residents at all times to make sure we are offering something that people genuinely want and that will make a real difference.

7| Objective 3: Drive up the quality of housing for all residents

Haringey's existing housing stock is increasing by less than 1% each year. Even if we accelerate to the pace necessary, this would not change the fact that to meet the need for good quality housing in Haringey we need to focus a large part of our effort on ensuring that the borough's existing homes are maintained and managed to the highest standards.

While the council has most direct control over the quality and management of its own homes, it is also committed to doing all it can to promote and enforce higher standards in all homes, and in the areas around homes.

7.1 Improving the quality and management of homes owned by the council

The council owns 16,000 rented properties and a further 4,500 leasehold properties. These homes are managed on the council's behalf by Homes for Haringey. The council, in partnership with Homes for Haringey, has made significant investment in its stock to achieve the Decent Homes Standard, which is the Government's minimum standard for the quality and state of repair of a home. As at March 2015, 73% of the council's stock met the Decent Homes Standard.

The priorities for our housing stock over the next five years include reducing the maintenance backlog and achieving efficiencies where possible to allow greater investment in the future. Between 2014 and 2016, supported by funding from the Mayor of London, we have committed a further £71m to bring

properties up to the Decent Homes Standard.

For the longer term, the council is working with Homes for Haringey to revise its Asset Management Strategy for its own housing stock. As well as addressing the remaining Decent Homes challenge, this will set out the issues and options for refurbishing communal areas, making environmental improvements, investing in building new council-owned social homes and driving the estate renewal programme while ensuring that the council can repay the necessary debt over the course of a 30-year business plan.

Under the umbrella of the council's Housing Unification and Improvement Programme, the council is also making a number of changes to the way its housing services are organised in order to improve efficiency and the quality of services to residents. These include:

- bringing together all operational housing services within Homes for Haringey
- transforming the council's housing services, to provide customer focussed, efficient services based on the principles of early intervention and prevention, support towards self-help, and enforcement
- exploring options for the future management structure for housing, including the future of Homes for Haringey

7.2 Improving the quality and management of homes owned by housing associations (registered providers)

Housing associations (also known as registered providers) own and manage a range of homes in Haringey, both in street properties and in estates. While the council has established a list of preferred partners with which it is focusing its work on building new homes, we will continue to work with all housing associations to drive a shared set of high standards for managing homes.

Several estates in Haringey are made up of homes owned and managed by more than one housing association. The quality and management of these multi-landlord estates, including the public space between homes, is a particular concern for the council. The providers themselves often recognise these problems too, and we are working with them to reduce the number of landlords on an estate through transfers of ownership to provide better and more efficient housing management services. This will be achieved through the council's preferred partnership agreement with the borough's registered providers (housing associations), a key objective of which is to establish a partnership approach to the provision, management and maintenance of affordable housing to raise standards across Haringey.

7.3 Improving the quality and management of privately rented homes

The private rented sector is growing: a third of Haringey residents already rent privately. Lettings of private rented homes in Haringey now outnumber lettings becoming available through the council or housing associations.

Given its growing role and popularity in Haringey, any attempt to improve standards cannot ignore privately rented homes. The council takes very seriously its responsibility to ensure that current and future residents have confidence in the borough's private rented sector to provide good quality, affordable and sustainable homes for the wide range of households that need and want to live in them. Landlords must be partners in the effort to build this confidence.

The council encourages Haringey-based private rented landlords and lettings and managing agents to sign up with the London Landlord Accredited Scheme (LLAS). As at December 2014 there were 597 Haringey members of LLAS. To become an LLAS member, private landlords and agents need to attend a one-day development course, agree to follow a code of conduct, and be a 'fit and proper person'. LLAS Members use the LLAS logo to indicate to prospective tenants their status as a landlord verified to provide good standards of quality and management.

The council now wants to go beyond this, though, to find ways of working with private landlords who

are not members of LLAS and in particular where interventions may be needed to bring the standard of their homes and their management practices into line with the accredited landlord standards.

The expectations we have for existing and future private landlords are high and our ambition is that the council will become one of the most innovative local authorities for managing this sector. The council will commission a comprehensive Private Rented Sector strategy in 2015-16 that will set out its ambitions, including its approach to bringing empty homes back into use as rented properties. In the immediate future, the council will focus on two new headline initiatives:

- The council will consider introducing a selective licensing scheme for all private landlords with homes in Haringey. Any landlord wishing to rent privately in Haringey will need to register with the scheme, and be subject to an assessment, or face enforcement action. We think this is the best way to ensure good quality homes and management standards in the private rented sector are maintained in the long term.
- The council will establish a lettings agency, via Homes for Haringey, through which residents can be confident of accessing good quality, accredited, private sector accommodation. This will also provide a value-for-money management service, offered initially to smaller landlords who let perhaps between one and ten homes.

For the longer term, we also want to increase the amount of purpose-built, professionally-managed and affordable private rented housing in the borough, which will not only improve the overall range, mix and quantity of homes but will also help to set new standards in the quality and management of private rented housing. We set out in Objective 4 that this new type of private rented housing will be focused in the east of the borough where it will form part of the Housing Zone proposals and wider regeneration plans in Tottenham. These activities will bring forward housing growth for the borough including good quality affordable private rented homes offering enhanced tenancy conditions such as longer tenancy terms than is normal in the private rented sector. We are also embedding quality requirements in

our development plan policy, with a commitment to reducing unsuitable conversions of small homes through family housing protection areas.

7.4 Doing more to bring empty homes back into use

It can be very frustrating for those in need of a home to know that there are empty houses and flats all over London that could be housing someone. We are committed to reducing the number of homes in Haringey which have been empty for more than six months, using compulsory purchase powers where necessary to bring them back into use. We will prioritise the targeting and use of empty properties, to make sure for example that they are increasing the supply of affordable homes of the size and type that we most need, or are contributing to our regeneration plans in certain parts of the borough.

We will also continue to drive down the number of empty homes which are owned by the council and housing associations operating in the borough, and work with our partners to keep the time for which a social home is vacant between lettings to a minimum.

7.5 Securing better design across all new homes

Every balanced, stable community needs homes and public spaces which people are proud to live in and proud to live near. We have not always achieved this in Haringey, but our Planning service is now promoting higher design standards in new housing, with a new Haringey Quality Charter embedded in planning policy, and a new Quality Review Panel to support the council and its Planning Committee in ensuring robust scrutiny of major new developments. We will also lead by example in the homes and places we build ourselves on council land, and by ensuring that we only fund homes and places that achieve our quality aspirations.

Our planning policies also require and promote community participation in shaping new development, but we will be reviewing our approach to planning consultations to see how they can be

improved. Meanwhile, in Tottenham Hale and North Tottenham the council has already started engaging users and residents in the design of those places.

7.6 Reducing carbon emissions

Emissions from Haringey's homes account for approximately 50% of total emissions in the borough. To meet the council's pioneering 40:20 commitment – to reduce carbon dioxide emissions across Haringey by 40% by 2020 will require different thinking, and the borough's homes must be central to that. The council's 40:20 programme brings together residents, businesses, social enterprises, charities and community groups across Haringey to combine carbon reduction with a drive for green growth through the creation of a low carbon economy in the borough. Current work includes:

- making new homes as 'low carbon' as possible, enforcing the requirement for new homes to be level 4 or above on the Code for Sustainable Homes, and encouraging developers to provide a local, low carbon decentralised energy source that offers competitively-priced energy and warmth, and which could be connected to a wider network if and when that emerges
- a focus on retrofitting homes, in recognition that only by tackling existing homes can we hope to meet our 40:20 target - while also tackling rising energy costs and supporting the emerging building 'retrofit' sector
- driving innovation more widely in carbon reduction, including through our partnership with Durham University, using Haringey as a testing ground for new approaches to low carbon development



8| Objective 4: Achieve a step change in the number of new homes built

Haringey is growing, a fact which the council not only accepts but embraces. By building new homes, creating new jobs and investing in the infrastructure that supports both, the council and its partners will have the best possible chance of meeting the needs of residents, helping to accommodate London's wider needs, and putting the council itself on a sustainable footing for the long term.

New homes must be the basis of this growth: how new private homes are key to meeting our need for affordable homes; how those new homes will help to create more mixed communities; and how the council's particular focus on housing estate renewal will contribute.

8.1 Maximising the number of new homes

The council is currently preparing its Local Plan, which sets out the council's long term vision for growth and how this can enable a continued supply of housing, including affordable housing. It represents a new and proactive approach by which the council will promote and manage the development of housing, particularly in areas identified for regeneration such as Tottenham and Wood Green.

The minimum capacity of the borough to provide new homes has been assessed as part of a London wide study informing the latest version of the London

Plan. This establishes a new housing target for the borough of 1,502 new homes each year. This equates to a total planned delivery of 19,800 net new homes across the borough by 2026 of which, at least 40%⁷ are expected to be affordable housing (equivalent to a numerical target of 7,920 affordable homes).

These targets are ambitious but achievable. The council will:

- work with landowners, the local community, and developers, to identify and allocate (within our Site Allocations DPD), sites across the borough with capacity to accommodate 19,800 new homes
- advance planning policies that create the right planning conditions for new housing alongside provision for new infrastructure and jobs
- work with public and private landowners and developers, including our RP partners, to maintain a pipeline of sites and new development - noting that private house-builders will have to build the vast majority of the new homes, and are therefore absolutely central to these plans
- lead by example, using our own land and assets to deliver the quality, volume and density of housing growth we want to see everywhere, as well as to drive wider regeneration. The council

⁷ Note that the 40% threshold quoted here is set out in planning policy documents which are, as at March 2015, subject to consultation. Until formally agreed, the threshold for affordable housing remains at 50%. Consultation is currently taking place and is due to finish on 27 March 2015.

will in particular aim to unlock the value in its own land to improve the viability of affordable housing. We will also do what we can to drive similar use of other public land

- work with the Greater London Authority (GLA), the Government and the private sector to accelerate housing delivery, for example by encouraging mixed and new tenures such as institutionalised private rented, shared ownership and custom/self build; by securing the best outcomes possible for each site within the constraints of viability; and by exploiting Government and GLA initiatives aimed at providing financial incentives to secure housing growth, such as our Housing Zone proposals for Tottenham Hale, being developed with the Mayor of London, and by working with housing associations to deliver the maximum possible number of affordable homes through the Mayor of London's funding programme
- make use of the additional resources available through Housing Revenue Account (HRA) self financing, and will continue to lobby the Government to increase the currently restrictive borrowing cap
- start building new council homes ourselves for the first time in a generation, on under-used land in its existing estates. Construction of the first phase of homes began in spring 2015, and we aim to have built at least 250 by 2018

8.2 Promoting affordable housing

Haringey is an expensive place to live. An average home in the most affordable part of Haringey - Tottenham N17 - cost £286,000 to buy in 2014⁸ while private sector rents for three bedroom homes in Highgate are more than £500 per week⁹. Haringey is one of 17 boroughs across the capital where households in the private sector are, on average, spending more than 50% of their net income on housing costs. Home ownership in particular is beyond the reach of many who currently live in the borough, or would like to move here, with the biggest barrier being the level of deposit required to secure a mortgage. As well as entry level affordability being an issue in Haringey, moving up the property ladder once you are on it can also prove difficult. Overall, affordability is a major barrier to the local housing market, both for prospective renters and prospective buyers.

Keeping rents affordable

The term 'affordable housing' is used a lot and the definition varies from household to household. To avoid any doubt or confusion, this strategy takes a new approach by setting out here how the council defines 'affordable' and the approach it will take to maintaining genuine affordability for as many people as possible.

⁸ Figures from Land Registry, based on actual sales Jan - Dec 2014

⁹ Rightmove, December 2014

Rent must be reasonable in relation to someone’s income.

Affordable rented housing should be genuinely affordable, to those most in need. For the existing 16,000 council homes, the council will maintain rent levels at or near so-called “target rents”¹⁰ to ensure that homes are available that local people in housing need can afford. We will encourage the landlords of Haringey’s 12,000 housing association homes in the borough to do the same and maintain target rents levels for the majority of the homes they let again after a tenant moves out. Even if we meet our targets for building new affordable homes, these existing homes are likely to form the majority of affordable rented housing in the borough – which means target rents will remain the most common kind of affordable rent in Haringey.

There is more of a challenge in setting rents for the new affordable rented homes which Haringey so desperately needs, and the homes for which housing associations are able to change the rent. The Government has reduced investment in new affordable housing by around 65% since 2010, which simply means that anyone wanting to build new affordable rented homes – whether council or a housing association - needs to set higher rents to secure the necessary investment. The Government’s affordable rent model is therefore pushing rents well above target rent levels, but we have to accept that without being able to charge these rents, the much-needed new homes simply cannot be built. In the circumstances we would aim to keep housing costs to a maximum of 45% of net household income.

Affordable rents should be set as a proportion of private rents. We recognise that because of government funding requirements, housing associations and other

partners are required to charge a rent higher than a target rent on new properties and some existing properties. Where rents are set above target rent level, we want to provide guidance on maximum rent levels. We are clear that providers should aim for average rents to be no more than 65% of local market rents - at the time of writing this strategy this would give an average affordable rent of £187 per week, or 39% of the median income in Haringey (£33,140 as at 2012-13).

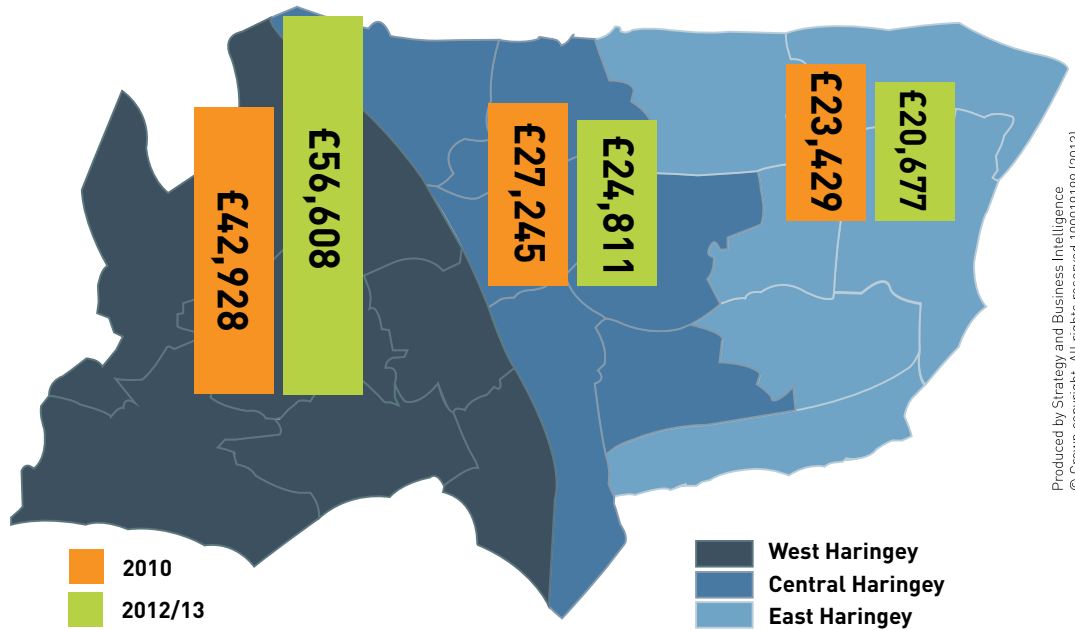
Where providers do set rents above 65% of local market rents they should target those homes at working households who are not affected by the benefit cap, and in particular those who are seeking to downsize from existing council or housing association homes. Homes where rents are below 65% of local market rents should be targeted at those in greatest need and who are affected by the benefit cap. The table below provides a guide to maximum rents in Haringey.

Number of bedrooms	Maximum affordable rents as % of local market rents
1	Up to 80%
2	Up to 65%
3	Up to 55%
4 or more	Up to 45%

In recognition of the higher market rents in the west of the borough, affordable rents in this part of the borough should be assessed against lower quartile market rents.

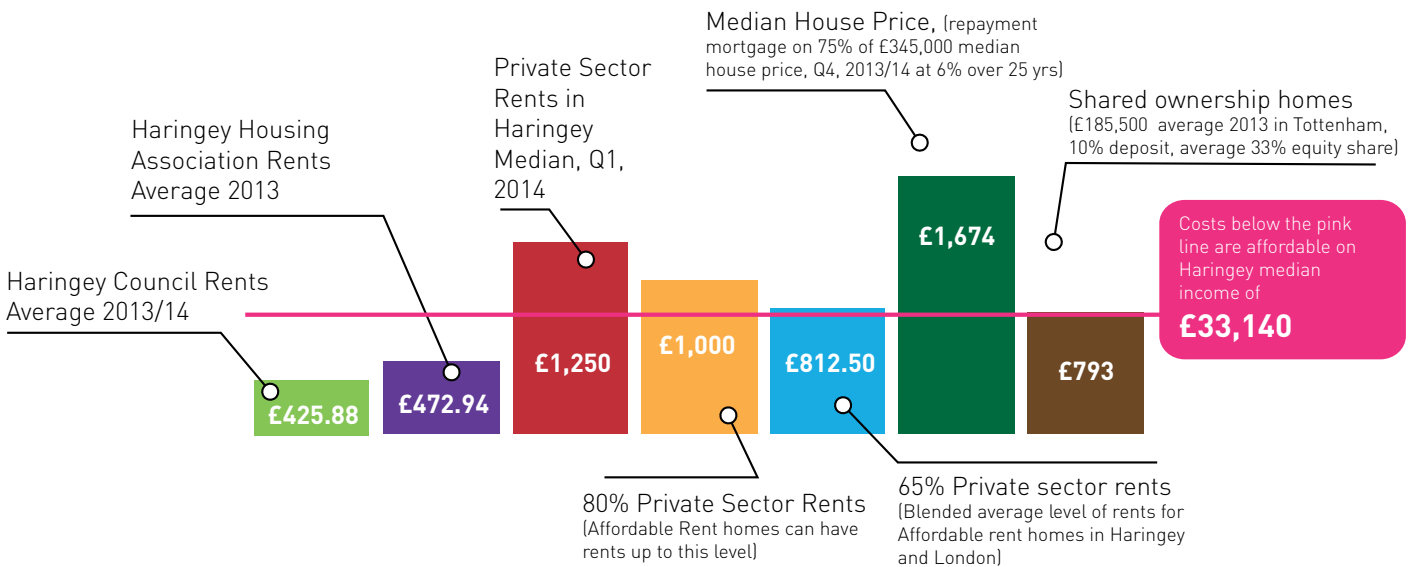
¹⁰ “Target rents” refers to a system introduced by the Government in 2002 which aimed to bring the rents charged for homes owned by councils and housing associations much closer to each other by 2012. Before the system of targets rents was introduced there were wide variations in rents charged for the same sized homes offered by councils and housing associations working in the same area. Target rents are based on a combination of individual property values and average earnings in each area and are increased by a government set formula. They are lower than market rents and are meant to be affordable by local people on average earnings.

Incomes in Haringey



Source: CACI Paycheck Data, 2010 and GLA modelled incomes 2012/13

Estimated monthly cost of different tenures in Haringey 2013/14



Source: GLA datasets except for Shared ownership costs which use Haringey Council data

Using the Planning system to secure affordable housing

The council's Local Plan: Strategic Policies requires developers to provide 40% on-site affordable housing on schemes of ten units or more, with that affordable housing split between 60% affordable social rent and 40% 'intermediate'. On a site by site basis we will seek the maximum reasonable proportion of affordable housing on all sites with a capacity of ten homes or more, and will give priority to the provision

of family affordable housing. This is always subject to financial viability; the council works with developers on a site-by-site basis to revisit and if necessary renegotiate contributions towards affordable housing and other community benefits to maximise the benefit for the community while ensuring that developer contributions do not make development unviable.

To aid discussions with developers, the council has recently adopted its Planning Obligations

Supplementary Planning Document, which sets out our expectations and procedures for securing affordable housing provision, including the assessment of development viability, affordable housing mix and tenure, and the use of Section 106 agreements.

Through our emerging Planning policies, we are also seeking to create more mixed communities. This will involve seeking different types of affordable housing in different parts of the borough. For example, in the west of the borough where property prices and land values are highest, we will encourage developers to exceed the minimum target of affordable housing by pooling resources with our registered provider (housing association) partners to provide good quality affordable rented accommodation. To help enable this approach, the council has established a Preferred Partner scheme, working with six specific registered providers to increase investment and improve efficiency in the delivery of affordable housing.

In Tottenham, where the level of social rented homes is already high, our Planning policies take a different approach, promoting affordable home ownership by requiring an affordable housing mix of 60% intermediate and 40% affordable rent.

A strong priority to increase intermediate housing and affordable home ownership

Home ownership is increasingly unaffordable for many Haringey residents, with the large deposit now needed to secure a mortgage a particularly significant challenge for first-time buyers. At the same time, rapidly increasing private rents in Haringey and across London make it increasingly difficult for households who will never be allocated a social rented home to find a good quality home that is affordable in relation to their income. Recent research suggests one in five London households is earning below average wages, with no savings or entitlement to benefits, and struggling to find housing that is affordable¹¹.

¹¹ Hollow Promise: How London fails people on modest incomes and what should be done about it, Centre for London (2014)

This is in large part a simple problem of supply and demand: there are not enough homes available to buy in London, and many new homes never reach the mainstream housing market: 70% of central London property in the last year was bought by investors, and a significant proportion bought by buy-to-let investors¹². But people's aspiration to own a home has not changed: 86% of people would buy their own home if they had chance¹³.

As well as frustrating people's ambitions, this squeeze can cause other problems, driving more overcrowding and creating polarised, poorly mixed communities. It can also cause poor mobility in the labour market as people find it hard to move into Haringey when they find work, which is a particular issue when it comes to key workers in the health, education and community safety sectors.

The council is determined to tackle this problem 'in the middle' of the housing market, by improving access to homes for intermediate rent and in particular low cost home ownership (often known as shared ownership), which offers the most realistic chance for people unable to purchase on the open market to get on the housing ladder. Shared ownership homes are not attractive to foreign investors, cannot be purchased for buy-to-let and offer the opportunity to prioritise certain groups of residents. Promoting this kind of housing helps to address these wider social problems and give as many families as possible a realistic chance of owning their home and enjoying the stability that provides.

We are taking a range of steps to promote the supply of – and access to – this increasingly important kind of housing. For example:

- The council will, for the first time ever, build and manage its own intermediate homes
- We will work with our housing delivery partners to provide more of these homes, particularly in areas with high levels of social housing or in

¹² Who buys new homes in London and why, British Property Federation (2014)

¹³ Public attitudes to housing in England, Report based on the results from the British Social Attitudes survey, Department for Communities and Local Government (2011)

areas with overheated house prices, supported by our affordable housing Planning policies

- We will promote innovation in this emerging sector, by exploring new delivery models. We will use council-owned land to increase provision of these homes, including by allowing developers to build now and pay the 'land receipt' later. We will also explore the appetite and ability of local people to take up custom build opportunities as part of community-led construction
- We will make it easier to accept innovative schemes which have just one tenure (for example, all homes are for affordable rent) or have homes of only one size where a good affordable housing mix can still be achieved within the wider area, and is appropriate for the site in question
- We will set up a new Low Cost Home Ownership register, offering a dedicated advice and support service to help people understand this sometimes complicated market and locate a home that is right for them

8.3 Supporting the development of strong mixed communities

We are clear that Haringey needs a wide range of homes, to meet the diversity of current and future needs and to obtain the mix in our communities that lies at the heart of our vision for housing in the borough. This cannot just be a mix of homes across the borough; it needs to be mixed as much as possible within each neighbourhood, offering diversity in the type and size of home, the tenure and the value. Neighbourhoods should be places of inclusion, not segregation: we want children to grow up with an appreciation of diversity and an understanding of different cultures and communities, which we believe is central to their successful adult life. Neighbourhoods should also be stable: we also want to enable people to move through the housing market without having to leave the communities where they have established ties.

We must ensure that the range of new homes provided by the council and others is helping to achieve that. There are a number of ways to do this, many of them through our role as Planning Authority which allows us to set clear expectations and standards for new development, in terms of housing tenures, the type and size of homes and the way they are designed. For example:

- There is currently a particular imbalance in the housing market in Haringey between Tottenham, where 62% of the borough's social housing (council and housing association) is located, and the west of the borough in places like Highgate and Muswell Hill which provide less than 20% of the social housing stock. We need to ensure a better balance of housing tenures across the borough, not least to support people on low and middle incomes to access the housing market in the right location for them. We will prioritise delivery of new affordable rented homes in the centre and west of the borough while promoting more market and intermediate homes, including for affordable home ownership and private renting, in Tottenham

- Our Area Action Plan will establish clear planning policies for Tottenham’s regeneration, including for housing. This will include provision for private rented accommodation on specific sites, and an amended affordable housing requirement with a priority on providing more intermediate housing
- New affordable housing throughout the borough should meet local housing need. The council’s target mix for both rented affordable housing and intermediate housing in Haringey is set out in Appendix A and has been formulated using evidence from Haringey’s Strategic Housing Market Assessment Study (2014), current local Housing Register information, and through profiling of the low cost home ownership register applicants.
- The mixes in number of bedrooms set out in Appendix A are borough-wide targets. The mix will be updated as necessary to reflect new or emerging evidence. Tenure and bedroom size mix on individual sites may differ according to local characteristics and localised housing demand. For example, while we generally expect homes for affordable home ownership, market sale and private rent to primarily focus on delivering smaller, one- and two-bedroom units, in some areas we may require a different mix, with more larger or smaller homes, to correct local imbalances and meet particular local needs.

which will allow the council to target areas of greatest investment need while also seizing the opportunity to increase density - providing much needed additional housing - and achieve a better mix of tenure in places which have traditionally been dominated by high levels of social housing.

The council’s Local Plan supports a move towards more mixed and balanced communities in areas of estate renewal. While the council has lost stock through Right to Buy, many of its housing estates remain predominately single tenure, often with a proliferation of smaller homes. Through the estate renewal programme, the council’s Local Plan sets out how we will seek to redress this imbalance by providing genuinely affordable homes for people on all incomes and create balanced and neighbourhoods where people can thrive. In particular, the council will:

- Aim to re-provide the number of habitable rooms in council homes lost through demolition, with an emphasis on providing family accommodation, recognising that this will sometimes mean a reduction in the overall number of social rented homes on some estates.
- Provide new affordable home ownership properties as well as market housing, both for sale and rent.

Haringey’s policy - the replacement of existing council housing on regeneration estates being on a ‘habitable rooms’ rather than ‘lost units’ basis - is to enable the borough to maximise opportunities to meet known affordable housing need. Affordable housing need in the borough is for fewer smaller homes and more, larger homes than are currently provided within the council housing stock. The number of current habitable rooms will be the minimum replaced and the council will always try to increase the number built, subject to viability.

We know that making plans for estate renewal, and then doing the work itself, will have a major impact on the people currently living in those estates. We will:

- Always work with residents to find an appropriate solution for their particular needs and the needs of the neighbourhood.

8.4 Renewing housing estates

Principles of estate renewal

Haringey’s own existing housing stock needs a considerable amount of investment to bring it up to the standards that our tenants have a right to expect. While Decent Homes investment has made, and will continue to make, the necessary improvements to a large number of council homes, there are other homes – and wider estates – where improvements are needed on such a scale that they are simply uneconomical, and others which simply cannot be brought up to the required standard with improvements. Our Housing Investment and Estate Renewal Strategy commits us to taking alternative approaches to investment, including estate renewal,

- Produce – and stick to – fair and transparent guidelines which set out residents’ rights when a renewal project gets underway.

An estate-by-estate approach

Haringey estates are not all the same. The approach to estate renewal, and the sequence in which estates are prioritised, will depend a great deal on the individual characteristics of each estate:

- The High Road West (Love Lane) and Northumberland Park estates in North Tottenham have high proportions of one- and two-bedroom homes, which have led to a disproportionate number of single vulnerable residents and serious over-crowding. Residents of these estates have also typically experienced low levels of employment, educational attainment, household income and life expectancy, and high levels of crime and benefit dependency. Renewal of these estates is a central part of the council’s wider approach to both people and place, and the balancing of housing markets, in the overall Tottenham regeneration programme.
- The Broadwater Farm estate faces a number of issues such as the mix and condition of homes, and social and economic challenges, which we are keen to address in the best interests of residents. The estate, and the wider area in which it sits, are identified in the emerging planning policy as a longer-term priority for

renewal, partly because of significant challenges in the economics of redevelopment, with change likely to begin after 2020.

- On the Noel Park estate, many of the houses fail basic decency and health and safety requirements as they do not have adequate space or appropriate layouts in kitchens and bathrooms. Considerable work is also required across the estate to protect the conservation standards and correct breaches of Planning rules. There is also overcrowding and high levels of unemployment, while high crime rates along neighbouring Wood Green High Road also have a negative impact. The council plans to consider its options for Noel Park later on in 2015.
- Alongside these big estates, the council is working on renewal plans for medium-sized estates including how the cost of redeveloping them will be met. The challenges on these estates include old-fashioned and poor quality buildings and a lack of internal or external space; in each case, the council needs to intervene to improve the living conditions and life chances of residents. The council will engage local residents, explore investment opportunities and look at the potential for additional homes on each estate to make best use of the land available. This will include improving the mix on each estate by introducing a wider range of different tenures.

Appendix A – Affordable and Intermediate Housing Mix (2015/16)

Mix for Affordable Housing

- 15% one bedroom units
- 43% two bedroom units
- 32% three bedroom units
- 10% four (or more) bedroom units

Mix for Intermediate Housing (for private rented and low cost home ownership homes)

- 20% one bedroom units
- 50% two bedroom units
- 25% three bedroom units
- 5% four (or more) bedroom units

Appendix B – Sources of information used

The following is a list of sources of information used to inform the content of the Housing Strategy and its associated Equalities Impact Assessment.

- Haringey Council Corporate Plan 2015– 2018
- Haringey Council Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2014
- Haringey Council Local Plan 2013
- Haringey Council Tottenham Strategic Regeneration Framework
- Haringey Council Wood Green Investment Framework
- Haringey Council Tenancy Strategy 2014
- Haringey Council Allocation Scheme 2014
- Haringey Council Housing Investment and Estate Renewal Strategy 2013
- Haringey Council Local Plan Making - Review of Haringey's Local Plan: Strategic Policies, "Preferred Options" for Tottenham Area Action Plan, "Preferred Options" for Site Allocations Development Plan Document, and "Preferred Options" for Development Management Development Plan Document, and the Local Development Scheme
- Mayor of London, London Plan 2011
- GLA Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014
- Mayor of London, London Housing Strategy, 2014
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Census 2001 and 2011 Data
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Land Registry Data
- CLG Local Authority Housing Statistics
- CLG Statistical Data Returns (registered providers)
- Haringey Authority Monitoring Reports (formerly Annual Monitoring Reports)
- Haringey Housing Register and Lettings data
- Haringey Right to Buy data
- Haringey Property and Tenancy data
- Haringey data on mandatory and additional licensing (HMOs)
- ONS Population Survey
- GLA Housing Data
- CACI Paycheck data
- DWP data on benefit applications (JSA)
- Haringey Housing Benefit data
- Haringey Affordable Pipeline and Completions Report
- Haringey Local Housing Allowance levels

First round of consultation on the proposed vision, priorities and objectives that could be included in a new housing strategy for Haringey which took place October-December 2014.



Haringey's Housing Strategy 2015 - 2020

Mustafa Ibrahim

Head of Housing Commissioning,
Investment and Sites

Why have a Housing Strategy?

- To flesh out the Corporate Plan and Local Plan by:
 - Providing more detail on how we will achieve our housing priorities
 - Show what the council will do and expects others to do
 - Show what success looks like
- To provide a framework for delivery
- To provide a way of engaging with residents and stakeholders about priorities, in a public document

Initial Consultation



- October to December 2014
Consultation on the vision, priorities and principles for the new Housing Strategy
- Over 300 responses via survey, e-mail, phone and meetings
- Feedback showed strong support for the proposed vision and objectives

Consultation on Vision and Objectives



		Support	What was missing
Vision	“Housing is about people and communities, not just bricks and mortar. This means mixed and inclusive neighbourhoods where residents can lead happy and fulfilling lives.”	85%	Some concern about the break up of communities; bricks and mortar important; affordable housing should be part of vision
Objective 1	Build strong, inclusive and successful communities	86%	Affordability; infrastructure; some scepticism about achievability
Objective 2	Build more homes across the borough	80%	More needed on quality of private sector and temporary accommodation
Objective 3	Improve the quality of housing for everyone	88%	Affordability of homes and what is affordable; problems in private rented market

Issues raised in Consultation



Issue raised	Council Response
Affordability - what is an affordable home?	Affordable homes will have a rent of less than 45% of average Haringey income
Need more homes than proposed in Strategy	GLA target is that 40% of all new homes are affordable. This will be addressed in the following 'Affordable Housing Delivery Plan'
Concern about good quality environment including empty homes, Decent Homes programme, design standards and multi landlord estates	Addressed as part of Objective 3, driving up the quality of housing for all residents
Concern about quality and management in the private sector	Addressed as part of 'Objective 3 -Improving the quality and management of privately rented homes' - to be supplemented by a sub strategy on Private Sector
Concern as to whether the strategy can be delivered	Monitoring arrangements are set out in the Strategy – including publishing progress and sub-strategies

Strategic Objectives



- Improve help for those in housing crisis
- Ensure that housing delivers a clear social dividend
- Drive up the quality of housing for all residents
- Achieve a step change in the number of new homes built

No specific targets or milestones - these will be set out in sub-strategies and delivery plans

Strategic Principles



- Strong emphasis on homelessness prevention
- Clear and open rules on how homes are allocated according to need
- Partnership with residents and encouraging them to take an active role in resolving problems
- Quality standards for all types of housing
- Mixed communities throughout the borough
- Estate renewal

Strategy – the challenge



- Cuts to the Council's budgets - £70m through to 2017/18
- 65% reduction in subsidy available to build homes
- Housing demand and homelessness – 3,092 households in temporary accommodation (Aug 2015)
- Housing Register – 11,660 (Sept 2015)
- Mayor aims to build 42,000 homes a year to meet need; currently achieving only 25,000 a year
- Average house prices in Haringey £516,004 in the last 12 months (Land Registry Index)
- Average incomes in Haringey - £38,849
- Government Policy

Housing Bill & Welfare Reform

- Forced Sale of High Value Council properties – this will fund:
 - Brownfield sites building fund;
 - Right to Buy for Housing Association tenants
- Reduction of social housing rent by 1% p.a. for four years
- Removal of Housing benefit from 18 – 21 year olds
- Freeze of working age benefits for 2 years
- Lower benefit cap from £26K to £23K

Impact of Government Policy



- Loss of housing and rental income
- Reduced ability to meet housing need
- Undermines incentive for council to build new homes
- May threaten viability of some smaller Housing Associations
- Reduction in benefits to poorer families increases the threat of homelessness
- Fewer landlords willing to rent their properties to tenants on benefits

Timetable



- Consultation period opened 14th July 2015 and closes on 18th October 2015
- Consultation undertaken on our website, in libraries & community centres, local community groups, and with residents, partners, businesses and private landlords
- Consider responses October – December
- Report on final strategy to Cabinet – January 2016

Objective 1 – Improve help for those in housing crisis



- Prevention: Target private rented homes
- Improve choices including social rented, private rented or in new areas
- Expect more of people to resolve their own crisis
- New approaches to temporary accommodation
- Amendments to Allocations Policy

Objective 2 – Ensure that housing delivers a clear social dividend



- Promoting stability, independence, health and well being
- Employment & training as part of housing options advice
- Use of buying power to help residents benefit from jobs from Council contracts
- Apprenticeships with providers and suppliers
- Older People's Housing Strategy to support independence for older people
- Affordable Warmth Strategy to address health issues
- Safety addressed through design which tackles ASB
- Giving residents a stake in growth – creating a re-generation company and Community Fund

Objective 3 – Drive up the quality of housing for all residents



- Transformation of housing services
- Address management of Housing Associations, especially multi-landlord estates
- Address private rented sector through a sub strategy on Private Sector housing
- Bring more empty homes back into use
- Work with Planning on design for new homes
- Reducing carbon emissions

Objective 4 – achieve a step change in the number of new homes built



- Identify and allocate sites for new homes
- Lead by example using our own sites
- Work with GLA on new investors from private sector
- Build our own homes
- Keep rents affordable
- New delivery model
- Create a Low Cost Home Ownership register
- Renewal of housing estates – providing at least the same number of habitable rooms

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Report for: Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Panel

Item number: 11

Title: Work Programme Update

Report

authorised by : Bernie Ryan, Assistant Director of Corporate Governance

Lead Officer: Clifford Hart, Democratic Services Manager, 0208 489 2920,
clifford.hart@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 This report gives details of the proposed scrutiny work programme for the remainder of the municipal year.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

N/A.

3. Recommendations

3.1 (a) That the Panel considers its future work programme, attached at **Appendix A**, and considers whether any amendments are required.

(b) That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be asked to endorse any amendments, at (a) above, at its next meeting.

4. Reasons for decision

The work programme for Overview and Scrutiny was agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 27 July 2015. Arrangements for implementing the work programme have progressed and the latest plans for the Panel are outlined in **Appendix A**.

5. Alternative options considered

5.1 The Panel could choose not to review its work programme however this could diminish knowledge of the work of Overview and Scrutiny and would fail to keep the full membership updated on any changes to the work programme.

6. Background information

- 6.1 The careful selection and prioritisation of work is essential if the scrutiny function is to be successful, add value and retain credibility. At its first meeting of the municipal year, on 8 June 2015, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed a process for developing the 2015/16 scrutiny work programme.
- 6.2 Following this meeting, a number of activities took place, including a public survey and Scrutiny Cafe, where over 90 suggestions, including a number from members of the public, were discussed by scrutiny members, council officers, partners, and community representatives. From these activities issues were prioritised and an indicative work programme agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in late July.
- 6.3 Whilst Scrutiny Panels are non-decision making bodies, i.e. work programmes must be approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, this item gives the Panel an opportunity to oversee and monitor its work programme and to suggest amendments. The work programme is attached at **Appendix A**.

Forward Plan

- 6.4 Since the implementation of the Local Government Act and the introduction of the Council's Forward Plan, scrutiny members have found the Plan to be a useful tool in planning the overview and scrutiny work programme. The Forward Plan is updated each month but sets out key decisions for a 3 month period.
- 6.5 To ensure the information provided to the Panel is up to date, a copy of the most recent Forward Plan can be viewed via the link below:

<http://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RP=110&RD=0&J=1>

- 6.6 The Panel may want to consider the Forward Plan and discuss whether any of these items require further investigation or monitoring via scrutiny.

Recommendations, Actions and Responses

- 6.7 The issue of making, and monitoring, recommendations/actions is an important part of the scrutiny process. A verbal update on actions completed since the last meeting will be provided by the Principal Scrutiny Officer.

7 Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 7.1 The individual issues included within the work plan were identified following consideration by relevant Members and officers of the priorities within the Corporate Plan. Their selection was specifically based on their potential to contribute to strategic outcomes.

8 Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

Finance and Procurement

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report. Should any of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny generate recommendations with financial implications then these will be highlighted at that time.

Legal

- 8.2 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.
- 8.3 Under Section 21 (6) of the Local Government Act 2000, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the power to appoint one or more sub-committees to discharge any of its functions.
- 8.4 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the approval of the future scrutiny work programme and the appointment of Scrutiny Panels (to assist the scrutiny function) falls within the remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 8.5 Scrutiny Panels are non-decision making bodies and the work programme and any subsequent reports and recommendations that each scrutiny panel produces must be approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Such reports can then be referred to Cabinet or Council under agreed protocols.

Equality

- 8.6 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:
- Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 8.7 The Panel should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them within its work plan, as well as individual pieces of work. This should include considering and clearly stating;
- How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share the nine protected characteristics;
 - Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate;
 - Whether there is equality of access to services and fair representation of all groups within Haringey;
 - Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people, are being realised.
- 8.8 The Panel should ensure that equalities comments are based on evidence. Wherever possible this should include demographic and service level data and evidence of residents/service-users views gathered through consultation.

9 Use of Appendices

Appendix A – Work Programme

10 Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 10.1 External web links have been provided in this report. Haringey Council is not responsible for the contents or reliability of linked websites and does not necessarily endorse any views expressed within them. Listings should not be taken as an endorsement of any kind. It is your responsibility to check the terms and conditions of any other web sites you may visit. We cannot guarantee that these links will work all of the time and we have no control over the availability of the linked pages.

APPENDIX A - Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Panel Work Programme 2015/16

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Details and desired outcome	Lead Officer / Witnesses
13th October 2015	Cabinet Q & A	To question Cabinet Member for Planning on their portfolio.	Cllr Demirci Stephen Kelly, AD Planning Service
	Homelessness	To report back from site visit to APEX House and Housing Options Team To decide options for any further enquiry.	Martin Bradford, Scrutiny Officer Denise Gandy, Director of Housing Demand, Homes for Haringey
	Haringey Housing Strategy	To enable members to comment on the strategy within the consultation period (closes 18 th October) and Identify future areas for pre decision scrutiny (emerging strategies and policies)	Mustafa Ibrahim, Head of Commissioned Services (Housing)
	Homes for Haringey	An update on the future of Homes for Haringey.	Mustafa Ibrahim, Head of Commissioned Services (Housing)
	Community Infrastructure Levy	To approve scoping report	Martin Bradford, Scrutiny Officer
	Viability Assessment	To approve scoping report	Martin Bradford, Scrutiny Officer
	Work Programme Update	To monitor and review work programme	Martin Bradford, Scrutiny Officer
16th November 2015	Cabinet Q & A	To question Cabinet Member for Housing & Regeneration on their portfolio.	Cllr Strickland
	Tottenham Regeneration	Corporate Programmes – focus to be	Helen Fisher, Director of Tottenham

	Programme	agreed – consultation processes	Regeneration (TBC)
	Housing Unification & Improvement Programme	Corporate Programmes – possible focus on councils plans to reduce homelessness /TA	Dan Hawthorn /Andrew Billany/Mustafa Ibrahim (TBC)
	Haringey Housing Strategy	To report back on the consultation outcomes. Identify future areas for pre decision scrutiny (emerging strategies and policies)	Mustafa Ibrahim, Head of Commissioned Services (Housing)
	Community Infrastructure Levy	To approve final report	Martin Bradford, Scrutiny Officer
	Work Programme Update	To monitor and review work programme	Martin Bradford, Scrutiny Officer
18th January 2016	Cabinet Q & A	To question Cabinet Member for Planning on their portfolio.	Cllr Demirci Stephen Kelly, AD Planning Service
	Community Engagement with Planning	Monitoring of implementation of recommendations of previously completed review	Stephen Kelly, AD Planning Service (TBC)
	Improving quality of Private rented Sector*	Update on plans to implement selective licensing	Steve Russell / Andrew Billany (TBC)
	Viability Assessment	To approve final report of Viability Assessment scrutiny project	Martin Bradford, Scrutiny Officer
	Work Programme Update	To monitor and review work programme	Martin Bradford, Scrutiny Officer
3rd March 2016	Cabinet Q & A	To question Cabinet Member for Housing & Regeneration on their portfolio.	Cllr Strickland
	Registers Housing Providers*	Update on implementation of Preferred Partnership Status, RHP performance and operation on multi-landlord estates	Andrew Billany/ Mustafa Ibrahim (TBC)
	Older Peoples Housing*	To focus on: Independent living support	Andrew Billany/ Mustafa Ibrahim (TBC)

		/ downsizing support*	
	Work Programme Update	To monitor and review work programme	Martin Bradford, Scrutiny Officer
	Annual Panel Assessment	What has worked well, hasn't worked. Items to carry forward to 2016/2017	Panel

* *Preparation and support including visits to be undertaken in advance of the meeting.*

- To schedule - balance of provision for employment and housing in local development plans

Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Panel Scoping Report– Community Infrastructure Levy

Review Topic	Community Infrastructure Levy
Rationale	<p>The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was introduced as part of the Planning Act 2008 to help pool local development contributions to support major infrastructure needs. Contributions derived from the CIL are different to those from S106 in that these can be used to fund <i>general</i> infrastructure development programmes (as set out in Regulation 123 List) whereas S106 monies can only be used to mitigate the impact of site specific development.</p> <p>The CIL is charged at a £ per square² for proposed new development and rates are determined locally. There are 3 rates in Haringey: £265 (western), £165 (central) and £15 (eastern). Haringey’s CIL Charging Schedule was adopted by decision of Full Council on 21 July 2014 and was implemented on 1 November 2014.</p> <p>THE CIL can be used to fund a wide range of infrastructure including transport, schools, hospitals and other health and social care facilities. The CIL is intended to focus on the provision of new infrastructure or develop and extend capacity of existing infrastructure and details are set out in the Regulation 123 List¹.</p> <p>In general the CIL receipts should be spent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on infrastructure needed to support the development of the area; • It can be spent on infrastructure outside the CA’s area, and spent by another body • Doesn’t have to spent on the infrastructure referred to in your charge setting evidence but.. the links should be clear • It is advisable to publish a list of the infrastructure you intend to use CIL for (Reg 123 list) • You cannot spend CIL on affordable housing.

¹ The Regulation 123 list sets out the types of infrastructure that may be funded by Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in the Borough.

	<p>At least 15% of CIL receipts must be allocated for spending in agreement with the local community in the area where development is taking place. Where a neighbourhood plan is in place this increases to 25%.</p> <p>The process for agreeing how the neighbourhood proportion of the CIL is not prescribed, only that the processes for determining this should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use existing consultation and engagement processes • Include local neighbourhood groups, forums, councillors and businesses; and • Be proportionate to level of receipts and scale of proposed development. <p>The council must prepare a report for any financial year (31st December) in which it receives CIL receipts. The report must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total CIL receipts for the reported year • The total CIL expenditure for the reported year • Summary of the items to which CIL has been applied and the amount of CIL expenditure on each item. <p>Highgate Neighbourhood Forum has an established neighbourhood plan which the Council should acknowledge in local governance arrangements for CIL allocation. It is expected that CIL receipts will come on stream in the latter part of 2015/16.</p> <p>Scrutiny involvement this area would focus on developing local governance arrangements for allocation and spending of CIL receipts, particularly in relation the community or neighbourhood element.</p>
Scrutiny Membership	<p>The review will be undertaken by members of the Housing and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel: Cllrs Akwasi-Ayisi (Chair), Engert, Gallagher, Griffiths, Gunes, Ibrahim and Newton. Other non-executive members will be invited to participate in the review.</p>
Terms of Reference (Purpose of the Review /	<p>The project will aim to address the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess current local policy framework for and allocation of CIL receipts:

<p>Objectives)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess what governance arrangements for the administration of CIL are in place at early adopter London Boroughs to indentify good practice with a view to inform the development of local policy and practice; • Consult with specialist planning practitioners and policy advisers to ensure that key elements of governance arrangements for CIL are complaint with necessary legalisation; • Assess best use of CIL receipts , particularly in relation as an ‘enabling’ fund to secure larger bids / plans for development e.g. health service, HLF etc. • Assess current consultation and community engagement and involvement process to underpin CIL priority setting; • Officials need to prepare thoroughly to ensure allocation and monitoring mechanisms work efficiently • Assess how the allocation of CIL receipts are aligned with other community resourcing e.g. Ward Budgets
<p>Links to the Corporate Plan</p>	<p>This scrutiny project will link to Corporate Priority 4 - Drive growth and employment from which everyone can benefit. In particular, the project will contribute to meeting the following objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will enable growth, by securing infrastructure - including transport, broadband, schools and health services
<p>Evidence Sources</p>	<p>The review will look at the following key documents: Planning Portal – Spending the CIL guidance LB Haringey SPD Planning Obligations CIL advice from Planning Officers Association Haringey Regulation 123 List</p>
<p>Witnesses</p>	<p>Internal officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Kelly, AD for Planning Service • Emma Williamson, Head of Development Management • Matthew Patterson, Health of Planning Policy • Section 151 Officer / Matthew Gaynor – finance framework for CIL, to identify any CIL spending commitments • Stephen McDonnell, AD for Environmental Services and Community Safety – possible

	<p>links to ward budgets</p> <p>There are a number of early adopter London Boroughs may be contacted to provide comparative evidence, these may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • London Borough of Croydon • London Borough Southwark • London Borough Redbridge • London Borough Wandsworth. <p>The project will consults and involve a number of specialist planning agencies which may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Advisory Service • Town & Country Planning Association • Planning Officers Association <p>Local Community Planning Groups</p>
<p>Methodology/Approach</p>	<p>Given the focused nature of this review, it is proposed that the format will take the form of scrutiny in a day, with all witnesses encouraged to attend on the same day. This conference type approach will facilitate continuity of evidence:</p> <p>Part 1 - local policy and practice – Haringey officers</p> <p>Part 2 – Other local authorities - London Boroughs</p> <p>Part 3 - Developers</p> <p>Part 4 – Specialist Advisers</p> <p>Part 5 - Community</p>
<p>Equalities Implications</p>	<p>Any emerging equalities issues will be assessed and highlighted for inclusion in final recommendations for governance arrangements for the CIL.</p>
<p>Timescale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August – September 2015 - project scoping • October 8th – Agreement of Scope by Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Panel • 19th October Confirmation by Overview & Scrutiny Committee • Late October – Background briefing report prepared ahead of evidence gathering

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late October (date TBA) – Evidence gathering –scrutiny in a day • 16th November/ 18th January - Report to Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Panel • Final report to OSC (Nov/Dec/Jan) dependent on above. • Spring 2016 - Cabinet
Reporting arrangements	AD for Planning, Stephen Kelly is the lead for Corporate Priority 4.
Publicity	The project will be publicised through the scrutiny website and scrutiny newsletter providing details of the scope and how local people and community groups may be involved. The outcomes of the review will be similarly published once complete.
Constraints / Barriers / Risks	Risks: Not being able to get key evidence providers to attend on the agreed date of evidence gathering. Not being able obtain evidence from key informants e.g. local authorities
Officer Support	Lead Officer; Martin Bradford, Policy Officer, 0208 489 6950 martin.bradford@haringey.gov.uk

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